ALBERNI INDIAN RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL, PORT ALBERNI, BC

29 students were listed on the NCTR website in 2021 as having died at the former Alberni Indian Residential School on the Sheshaht Reserve at Port Alberni, BC:

https://nctr.ca/residential-schools/british-columbia/alberni/

Annie Jack	Not known
Bertha Fred	1937-02-14
Cyril Mussel	1946-10-04
Dalton Silver	1941-06-13
David Thomas	1972-11-11
Edward Thompson	1946-01-01
Gary Hopkins	1973-05-13
Gary James Hopkins	1981-03-31
Gary Ross	1962-09-05
Gerald Wilson	1970-07-09
Herb Robert Green	1951-01-01
Ivan Wilson	1973-11-10
Jack Williams	1905-11-19
Katie Taylor	1908-12-12
Lily Peal Smith	1945-12-03
Maisie Shaw	1946-12-26
Mary Bob	1937-02-14
Mary Elaine George	1964-10-05
Mary Taylor	1908-10-01
Maud Jackson	1908-11-01 - 1908-11-30
Mitchell Joseph	1969-05-26
Nellie Kiutesi	Not known
Norman Bob	1942-04-07
Shirley Leslie Williams	1963-05-17
Taylor Santo	1906-08-13
Theodore Mckay	1941-05-22
Violet McKay	1937-02-14
Virginia Moses	1946-03-15
Yinnito Taylor	1899-07-01 - 1899-07-31

The above-referenced 29 students are not 'missing'. They are listed below in the order in which they appeared on the NCTR website with the following indications as to the federal and provincial government and residential school records which have information concerning the date of death, cause of death, and place of burial for each student.

THE TYPES OF RECORDS CONSULTED

(1) Provincial Government Death Certificates

The letter [C] following a name indicates that a microfilmed copy of the provincial death certificate is available online at the BC Archives at:

http://search-collections.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/Genealogy

An asterisk following a name indicates that the microfilmed copy of the provincial death certificate is not available online, but can be accessed free of charge at the BC Archives and at major BC public libraries.

(2) Inquiries Into Student Deaths

The Department of Indian Affairs mandated, on Form No. 414, that there be an inquiry into the death of any student who died at a residential school:

When a pupil of an Indian Residential School dies, the Principal is required to inform the Indian Agent at once.

On receipt of the Principal's notice the Indian Agent shall convene a Board of Inquiry, consisting of himself as Chairman, the Principal of the Residential School, and the Medical Officer who attended the deceased pupil. These members of the Board shall, in each other's presence, complete this memorandum, which shall then be forwarded to the Department of Indian Affairs, Ottawa, in one copy.

The Board of Inquiry shall, if at all practicable assemble within 48 hours of the pupil's death.

The parents or guardians of the deceased pupil shall be given notice of this inquiry and be permitted to attend it or to send a representative. They or their representative shall be asked if they wish to make a statement. In the event of their so wishing, their statement shall be attached to the report. The inquiry, however, shall not be delayed more than 72 hours after the time at which it would otherwise be held to enable them to attend it. . . .

This inquiry is not designed to take the place of, or prevent, any other inquiry including an inquest, which may be required by law.

If the pupil died as the result of an accident, the Indian Agent is required to take the statements of the witnesses of the accident and attached them to this memorandum.

Inquiry reports for deaths which occurred at the Alberni Indian Residential School from 1937-1945 were microfilmed by Library and Archives Canada. To access them, go to this link for LAC c-8762, and insert the page number 1717:

https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2477528

(3) Quarterly Returns

A unique register number was used to meticulously track every student from the time the student was admitted to a residential school until the time the student ceased to attend and was formally recorded as 'discharged'. In the entries below the student's unique register number at the Alberni Indian Residential School has been added from microfilmed quarterly returns, applications for admission, and DIA inquiries into student deaths.

Quarterly returns which included student names, register numbers and attendance data were sent to Ottawa by school principals via the local Indian Agent every quarter in order for the school to qualify for the per capita grant paid by the federal government for each eligible status Indian student.

Quarterly returns for the Alberni Indian Residential School for the years 1942-1952 were microfilmed by Library and Archives Canada. To access them, go to this link for LAC c-8759, and insert the page number 1978:

https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2471313

And go to this link for LAC c-8760, and insert the page number 7:

https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2473483

(4) Application Forms Signed By Parents

The local Indian Agent was required to submit an individual application form signed by a parent to the Department of Indian Affairs in Ottawa for each student for whom admission to a residential school was requested, and each application was then formally approved or rejected in writing by Department officials in Ottawa.

Similarly, the Indian Agent was required to submit an application to Ottawa before any student could be discharged from the school, and each discharge was also formally approved in writing by Department officials in Ottawa. In addition, a form summarizing the applications for admission and discharge of students was sent to Ottawa by school principals through the Indian Agent every quarter along with the quarterly returns.

Applications for admission and discharge as well as the quarterly summaries for the Alberni Indian Residential School for the years 1946-1952 were microfilmed by Library and Archives Canada. To access them, go to this link for LAC c-8761 and insert the page number 1892:

https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2475198

Continued on LAC c-8762, page 6 at:

https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2477528

(5) Department of Indian Affairs Annual Reports

Until about 1915, annual reports by principals, which included information on school health conditions and student deaths, were printed in the Department of Indian Affairs Annual Report. DIA Annual Reports can be accessed at the Library and Archives Canada website at this link:

https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/Home/Search?DataSource=Library|IndAffAnnRep&q_exact=for%20the

%20 year%20 ended & Date Bucket = %7C1864-1969 &

See also:

https://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.846380/publication.html

STUDENT BIOGRAPHIES COMPILED FROM THE ABOVE RECORDS

Annie Jack (date of death unknown) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: possible family members: Ernest Jack, Register #65, 15 yrs old, and Paul Jack, Register #66, 12 yrs old, Ohiat Band, at Alberni Indian Residential School in December 1942 (see LAC c-8759, p. 1987); Bertha L (Leta) Jack, Register #44, 11 yrs old, and Ethel Jack, Register #45, 10 yrs old, Ohiat Band, at Alberni Indian Residential school in March 1943, Bertha L Jack transferred to Coqualeetza for treatment (see LAC c-8759, p. 1999)]

Bertha Fred* (1937/2/14), Register #211; 8 yrs old; Sheshaht Band; born Port Alberni; parents Martin Fred, born Port Alberni, and Agnes Joseph, born Whyac; d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; tuberculous meningitis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Port Alberni; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1719-21, 1732-38) [NB: statement by principal at DIA inquiry:

History of Bertha Fred's Case—Died Feb. 14./37

Had what the doctors called German measles in May. Was well over these and about June 10 contracted the old fashioned measles, ran a high temperature and was in bed until July 11. Went with father on boat for holidays. Returned to school Aug. 15th looking rather miserable, but picked up some in looks and strength. Had Dr. Thomas examine her a number of times. He thought there was nothing seriously wrong. We tried all fall to build her up with resting in bed in the forenoons, cod-liver oil, eggnoggs, cocomalt, etc. She seemed to be improving but flu struck our school and she was very sick with high temperature for a week. Feb. 8th we feared meningitis. After examination by Dr. Thomas we kept her at school with Violet McKay until the following day and sent her to hospital in ambulance with nurse at same time as Violet McKay. I tried to get her father but as he was on an Island down the canal I was unable to get in touch with him until his brother went for him by gas boat on Friday. She died in hospital Sunday morning, Feb. 14th. F.E. Pitts]

[NB: certificate for father's second marriage states Martin Fred, fisherman, residence Sheshaht Reserve, Alberni, born Sechart (father Big Fred, born Sheshaht Reserve, Alberni, mother Mrs Big Fred), widower, aged 35, and Martha Touchie, residence Sheshaht Reserve, Alberni, born Sheshaht Reserve (parents Tom Touchie, born Ucluelet, mother Sarah Bill), spinster, aged 24, were married 12 May 1942 at residence of F.E. Pitts, Alberni, witnesses Mr and Mrs Robert L. George, Alberni, Reverend F. E. Pitts officiating] [NB: Reverend Frank Edwin Pitts was principal of Alberni Indian Residential School from 1927-1937]

[NB: death certificate for father, Martin Fred, fisherman; Sheshaht Band; residence 5060 Mission Road, Port Alberni; born 12 January 1907, Sechart; father surnamed Fred, mother Minnie; married (wife Martha Touchie); d. 17 October 1985, 5060 Mission Road, Port Alberni, aged 78; death certificate signed by son, Daniel(?) Fred, 5060 Mission Road, Port Alberni, and doctor; buried Hector Road Cemetery, Port Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for brother, Harry Fred, fishing and labourer; residence Bamfield; born 16 February 1928, Nitinat; parents Martin Fred, Agnes Joseph deceased; single; d. 2 September 1958, Sarita River, aged 30; 'gunshot wound of skull and brain'; autopsy; death certificate signed by father, Martin Fred, River Road, Alberni; buried New Indian Cemetery, Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for grandfather, Big Fred, states d. 13 March 1947, Port Alberni, aged 67]

[NB: death certificate for half brother, Anthony Lewis Fred, logger, MacMillan Bloedel; residence 3603 14th Avenue, Port Alberni; born 13 November 1946, Keith Island; parents Martin Fred, born Sechart, Martha Touchie, born Port Alberni; married (wife Cheryl Amos); d. 20 October 1987, West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni, aged 40; logging accident; autopsy; death certificate signed by wife Cheryl A. Fred, 3603 14th Avenue, Port Alberni, and coroner; buried Sheshaht Cemetery, Hector Road, Port Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for half sister, Rita Marlene Fred; Sheshaht Band; residence Alberni; born 3 August 1948; parents Martin Fred, Martha Touchie; d. 9 November 1952, Nanaimo Indian Hospital, aged 4; tuberculous meningitis, military tuberculosis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Indian Cemetery, Alberni]

[NB: for half brother, Randy Fred, son of Martin Fred and Martha Touchie, see Haig-Brown, Celia, *Resistance and Renewal: Surviving the Indian Residential School* (Vancouver: Arsenal Pulp Press, 1988), pp. 15-24, at:

https://archive.org/details/resistancerenewa0000haig

See also:

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/randy-fred-alberni-indian-residential-school-court-case-documentary-1.6679349

Cyril Mussel, (1946/10/4), [C]; Register #53; 14 yrs old; Soowahlie Band; residence Soowahlie Indian Reserve, Vedder Crossing; born 2 September 1932; parents Stanley and Sophie Mussell; admitted August 1939 (see LAC c-8760, p. 9); d. Coqualeetza Indian Hospital, Sardis; tuberculous meningitis due to pulmonary tuberculosis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Soowahlie Indian Reserve, Chilliwack [NB: death certificate states name was Cyril **Mussell**] [NB: quarterly return dated 30 September 1946 states: 'To Sanitorium Died Oct. 4 (Discharge)' (see LAC c-8760, p. 109)]

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states Stanley Mussel and Sophie Charles were married 26 May 1930, Coqualeetza]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Sophie Charles; residence Soowhalie Indian Reserve, Vedder Crossing; born 14 January 1913; father Sam Charles, mother unknown; married (husband Stanley Mussell); d. 19 September 1960, Coqualeetza Indian Hospital, Sardis, aged 47; death certificate signed by doctor; place of burial not given]

[NB: death certificate for father, Stanley Mussell, retired logger; Soowahlie Band; residence #180, Soowhalie Reserve, Vedder Crossing; born 23 November 1912, Chilliwack; parent Edmond Mussell, Matilda David, both born Chilliwack; widowed (wife Sophie Charles); d. 10 November 1985, Chilliwack General Hospital, aged 72; death certificate signed by son, Ed Mussell, #170, Soowhalie Reserve, Vedder Crossing, and doctor; buried Soowhalie Reserve Cemetery, Vedder Crossing]

Dalton Silver* (1941/6/13), Register #110; 10 yrs old; Sumas Band; born Sumas; parents Ambrose Silver, born Sumas, Jean Shaw, born Agassiz; d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; tuberculous meningitis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Nilgard; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1749-54) [NB: principal's statement at DIA inquiry: 'Dalton had what appeared to be a stomach ache with slight vomiting. When he did not improve, Doctor was called.'] [NB: taken to hospital 'Late afternoon – in Principal's car – June 2/41'] [NB: statement by Indian Agent at DIA inquiry: 'I saw this boy at various times during his illness and am satisfied that he received the best of care & treatment']

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states Ambrose Silver and Mary Jane Shaw were married 5 October 1931, Sardis]

[NB: death certificate for father, Ambrose David Silver, labourer; residence Indian Road, Kilgard; born 5 February 1907; father Peter Silver, mother surnamed Vedder; married (wife Jane Shaw); d. 4 August 1959, Trans-Canada Highway at Kilgard, aged 52; 'Shock, Crushed chest & internal injuries, Highly intoxicated' 'The deceased, a pedestrian, started to cross the Highway and was struck by an oncoming car which killed him instantly'; death certificate signed by son, A.R. Silver, Kilgard, and coroner; buried Kilgard Indian Cemetery] [NB: enfranchised (note on death certificate: 'I have been told he is a FREE Indian.']

[NB: death certificate for grandfather, Peter Silver, labourer; Sumas Band; residence Sumas Indian Reserve, Kilgard; born 23 March 1871; parents unknown; widowed; d. 20 February 1946, Sumas Indian Reserve, Kilgard, aged 74; 'Over indulgence in

Alcohol and exposure, superimposed on myocarditis.'; death certificate signed by coroner; buried Sumas Reserve]

[NB: article by nephew, also named Dalton Silver, at:

https://www.abbynews.com/news/sumas-first-nation-chief-dumbstruck-by-residential-school-assignment-says-more-education-needed/

David Thomas (1972/11/11), [C]; 8 yrs old; Nitinat Band; residence Nitinat Lake Reserve; born 29 December 1963, Chemainus; parents John Angus Thomas, born Nitinat Lake, Ethel Mary Edwards, born Kuper Island; d. #4 Highway, Cameron Lake area (thrown out of a bus which ran off the road); laceration of brain, skull fracture; death certificate signed by father, John A Thomas, Port Alberni, and coroner; buried Nitinat Lake Indian Cemetery [NB: death certificate states name was David **Clayton Edwards**]

[NB: Vancouver Sun, 13 November 1927, p. 9:

One Killed: Outing ends in tragedy

Port Alberni – One boy was killed, another had his left arm severed and 11 others received minor injuries when a bus crashed 13 miles east of here.

Parksville RCMP said the nine-passenger van, driven by child care worker Wendy Frizzell, 22, of Port Alberni, went out of control and rolled several times about 7:45 p.m. on Highway No. 4 at Cameron Lake.

David Thomas, seven, son of Chief John Thomas of the Nitinat Lake reserve, was dead on arrival at West Coast General Hospital. He was thrown from the vehicle as it rolled.

Alex Johnson, six, of Kispiox, who had his left arm severed, was reported in satisfactory condition in hospital.

The other passengers, all boys between the ages of six and 12, and the driver, were taken to hospital by private cars and were treated for cuts and bruises and released.

The boys reside at Port Alberni Indian Student Residence and attend local schools.

John Andrews, administrator of the residence, said the boys were "out for a little Saturday night ride."

Police said the bus had only nine seats but there was enough room for all the children to be seated.]

[NB: Vancouver Sun, 24 November 1972, p. 81:

Boy's death in bus spill 'accidental'

Port Alberni – An inquest jury attached no blame Thursday in the mini-bus death of a seven-year-old boy.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death on David Clayton Edward, also known as David Thomas, of Nitinat.

Evidence was given that the boy died of skull fractures and brain lacerations resulting from the Nov. 11 accident on Highway 4, 13 miles east of here.

He was with 12 other boys in a 12-seater van which went out of control and rolled over twice.

Alex Johnson, 6, of Kispiox, had his left hand severed in the accident.

The vehicle, owned by the Indian Affairs Department, was being driven by Wendy Frizzell, 22, a child-care worker at the Alberni Indian students' residence.

A recommendation from the jury urged the Indian Affairs Department to require drivers of passenger vehicles to hold class 4 driving licences.

Holders of Class 4 licences are required to take a road test in a passenger-carrying vehicle.

Coroner Dr. Norman Jones said the accident occurred on a straight stretch of road at night.]

Edward Thompson (1946/1/1), [C]; Register #210; 11 yrs old; Nitinat Band; residence Dodger's Cove Reserve, Bamfield; born 10 December 1934; parents George Thompson and Helen Mary Chester; admitted 11 September 1944 (see LAC c-8759, p. 2113); d. Port Alberni (drowned after falling off float in Alberni Canal, described as 'public place'); coroner's inquest; autopsy; death certificate signed by coroner and Indian Agent; buried Sheshaht Cemetery, Port Alberni [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1946/7/27, i.e. during summer holidays] [NB: quarterly return dated 30 September 1946 states: 'Drowned during Vacation' (see LAC c-8760, p. 115)]

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states George Thompson and Helen Mary Chester were married 20 February 1946, Bamfield]

[NB: death certificate for father, George Thompson, fisherman; residence Nitinat Lake; born 15 May 1895, Nitinat Lake; parents Charles and Susan Thompson, both born Nitinat Lake; married (wife Helen Chester); d. 9 January 1973, West Coast Hospital, Port Alberni, aged 77; autopsy; death certificate signed by son, Aulston(?) Thompson, and doctor ('coroner was informed of this case'); buried Nitinat Cemetery, Nitinat Lake]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Helen Chester; Nitinat Band; residence Port Alberni; born 5 May 1902, Cho-oose [Clo-oose]; father Jimmy Chester, mother unknown, both born Cho-oose; widowed (husband George Thompson); d. 1 November 1980, West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni, aged 78; death

certificate signed by son, Michael Thompson, Port Alberni, and doctor; buried Nitinat Cemetery, Nitinat]

[NB: brother Elmer Thompson, Register #209, also admitted 11 September 1944 (see LAC c-8759, p. 2113)]

Gary Hopkins (1973/5/13), [C]; 19 yrs old; residence Bella Bella; born 10 May 1954, Bella Bella; parents Larsen Stanley and Cecilia Bertha Hopkins, both born Bella Bella; employed as shoreworker for 5 years prior to death, fishing industry, Milbanke, Shearwater; d. Prince George (#205, 1699 Ingledew Street); cerebral oedema due to effects of alcohol, possible asphyxia; autopsy; death certificate signed by mother, Celia B Hopkins, Bella Bella, and coroner; buried Bella Bella Cemetery [NB: age and employment record indicate not a student]

[NB: death certificate for father, Stanley Arnold Larsen, fisherman; residence Bella Bella; not native Indian; born 19 December 1923, Inverness; father Walter Larsen, born Port Essington, mother Isabella Thompson; single; d. 14 November 1976, at home, Bella Bella, #16 Kyoqyot, aged 53; death certificate signed by uncle, Ed Larsen, Campbell Island, and doctor; buried Bella Bella Indian Cemetery]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Bertha Cecilia Hopkins; residence 327 Clatsja Street, Bella Bella; born 8 June 1924, Bella Bella; parents Thomas Hopkins, Minnie Jackson, both born Bella Bella; never married; d. 7 August 1999, R.W. Large Memorial Hospital, Waglisla, aged 75; death certificate signed by daughter, Carrie Abery, 32551 Williams Avenue, Mission, and doctor; cremated]

Gary James Hopkins (1981/3/31), [C]; 18 yrs old; white; residence Horsefly Road, Williams Lake; born 31 January 1963, New Westminster; not Native Indian; parents Donald Allen Hopkins, born Clan Williams, Manitoba, and Aldea Bremner, born Eli, Manitoba; d. Highway 97, 6 miles south of Williams Lake; vehicle accident (brain hemorrhage, fractured skull); death certificate signed by mother, Aldea Hopkins, 150 Mile House, and coroner; buried Burquitlam Cemetery, Burquitlam [NB: death certificate states name was Cary James Hopkins] [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1981/3/13] [NB: unclear why name is on NCTR list as not Native Indian, and died in 1981 (Alberni Indian Student Residence closed in 1973)]

Gary Ross (1962/9/5), [C]; 8 yrs old; white; residence Redstone; born 8 June 1954, Alexis Creek; racial group White; parents Peter Ross, born Redstone, and Katherine Cooper, born Anahim, Hanceville (parents murdered by Dennis Jack, see below); d. Caribou Memorial Hospital, Williams Lake; accidentally shot by brother; death certificate signed by father, Peter Ross, Redstone, and coroner; buried on parents' ranch [NB: death certificate states name was Gary Peter Ross] [NB: not a student at Alberni Indian Residential School]

[NB: death certificate for father, Peter Ross, ranch hand; residence Bayliff Road, Alexis Creek; born 15 September 1913, Redstone; father Ralph Ross, mother surnamed Charlieboy, both born Redstone; married (wife Kathleen Cooper); d. 11 July 1988, Chilcotin Country 25 air miles southwest of Alexis Creek, aged 74; homicide; 'gun shot wound penetrating head & brain' 'gun shot in back of head with

.22'; autopsy; death certificate signed by coroner; buried Redstone Indian Burial Grounds]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Kathleen Cooper, ranch hand; residence Bayliff Road, Alexis Creek; born 27 March 1932, Redstone; father George Cooper, mother unknown, both born Anahim Reserve; married (husband Peter Ross); d. 12 July 1988, Cariboo Memorial Hospital, Williams Lake, aged 56; homicide; 'gun shot wound penetrating abdomen' 'shot in back with .22'; autopsy; death certificate signed by coroner; buried Redstone Indian Burial Grounds]

[NB: for circumstances of parents' deaths, see *Vancouver Sun*, 26 September 1988, p. 9: Dennis Jack, convicted of manslaughter in 1979 for shooting death of Terry Hunlin, Redstone, and later convicted of other crimes, fled on 11 July 1988 while awaiting trial for assault on common-law wife, Mary Madeline William, murdered Peter Ross and Catherine Cooper same day, and after a 73-day manhunt eventually shot self on 22 September 1988 in home of Mary Madeline William]

[NB: death certificate for Dennis Jack, carpenter; residence Redstone Indian Reserve, Chilanko Forks; born 26 December 1960, Redbrush Meadows; parents Tommy Jack, Theresa Alphonse; single; d. 22 September 1988, private residence, Redstone Indian Reservation near Alexis Creek, aged 27; suicide; 'Self-inflicted gunshot wound'; autopsy; death certificate signed by brother, Duncan Jack, Chilanko Forks, and coroner; buried Redstone Indian Burial Grounds]

Gerald Wilson (1970/7/9), [C]; 19 yrs old; residence Alert Bay; born 6 April 1951, Bella Bella; parents George Nathan Wilson Sr. and Louisa Gladstone, both born Bella Bella; d. St George's Hospital, Alert Bay; lymphoblastic leukemia; ill for more than a year prior to death; death certificate signed by father, George N Wilson, Alert Bay, and coroner; buried Christ Church Cemetery, Alert Bay [NB: death certificate states name was Gerald **Eugene** Wilson]

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states George Nathan Wilson and Louisa Gladstone were married 28 September 1945, Bella Bella]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Louisa Gladstone; Bella Bella Band; residence Bella Bella; born 29 October 1911, Bella Bella; parents Paul Gladstone, Emma White, both born Bella Bella; married (husband George Nathan Wilson); d. 26 April 1985, R. W. Large Memorial Hospital, Bella Bella, aged 73; death certificate signed by cousin, Mary Hall, Waglisla, and doctor; buried Grave Island, Waglisla]

[NB: death certificate for father, George Nathan Wilson, engineer, BC Hydro; Heiltsuk Band; residence Bella Bella; born 1 August 1908, Bella Bella; parents George Nathan Wilson, Laura White; widowed; d. 6 July 1986, R. W. Large Memorial Hospital, Bella Bella, aged 77; death certificate signed by brother, V.B. Wilson, 5663 Groveridge Wynd, Delta, and doctor; buried Meadow Island, Waglisla, by Reverend Ernie Willie, Waglisla]

Herb Robert Green (1951/1/1), [C]; Register #343; 11 yrs old; Port Simpson Band; residence Port Simpson; born 10 March 1940; parents George Green and Maggie Henry; admitted 1 September 1949 (see LAC c-8762, p. 38); d. by drowning off south

end of Jayas Island north of Port Simpson; coroner's inquiry; death certificate signed by mother, Mrs. Maggie Green, Port Simpson, and coroner; buried Port Simpson Indian Reserve Cemetery [NB: death certificate states name was **Herbert** Robert Green] [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1951/7/16, i.e. during summer holidays]

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states George Green, fisherman, Port Simpson Band, born Port Simpson (parents Philip Green, born Port Simpson, Jennie Livingstone), bachelor, aged 21, and Maggie Henry, Port Simpson Band, born Port Simpson (parents James Henry, born Port Simpson, Mary Ross), spinster, aged 22, were married 22 August 1934, First United Church, witnesses Joe Sankey, F.D. Samfeare, C.D. Clarke, Prince Rupert, officiating]

[NB: death certificate for brother, Thomas James Green, labourer; residence Port Simpson; born 7 December 1947, Port Simpson; parents George Howard Green, Maggie Isabelle Henry, both born Port Simpson; single; d. 1 May 1970, Port Simpson harbour, aged 22; 'Asphyxiation by drowning Very drunken condition – blood alcohol 0.33% - Green was partying & swimming off the Port Simpson wharf and the last time in did not come to the surface. Drowned'; autopsy; death certificate signed by brother, Howard Green, Port Simpson, and coroner; buried Port Simpson]

Ivan Wilson (1973/11/10), [C]; 15 yrs old; residence Port Alberni; born 10 February 1958, Port Alberni; parents Lawrence Wilson and Mamie Joe, both born Port Alberni; d. by drowning (concussion after suicide jump from McCoy Creek bridge (150 ft) on logging road near Port Alberni); probable acute alcohol intoxication; death certificate signed by mother, Mrs Mamie Wilson, 201 Sproat Lake Road, Port Alberni, and coroner; autopsy; buried Hector Road Cemetery (Sheshaht Cemetery), Port Alberni [NB: death certificate states name was Ivan **Thomas** Wilson] [NB: mother possibly former student Mamie Joe, Register #92, 8 yrs old, Sheshaht Band, admitted September 1940 (see LAC c-8759, p. 2203)] [NB: Alberni Student Residence closed in 1973]

[NB: death certificate for father, Lawrence George Wilson, tug boat operator, M. & B.; residence 6661 Sproat Lake Road, Port Alberni; born 25 September 1923, Port Alberni; father Alfred Wilson, mother Isabelle Dick, born Port Alberni; married (wife Mamie Joe); d. 6 March 1986, West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni, aged 62; death certificate signed by wife, Mamie Wilson, and doctor; buried Tseshaht Cemetery, Hector Road, Port Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Mamie Joe; Tseshaht Band; residence 8301, C-2, RR3, Port Alberni; born 8 April 1933, Port Alberni; parents Wilson and Bella Joe; widowed (husband Lawrence George Wilson); d. 12 May 2000, West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni, aged 67; death certificate signed by daughter, Dorothy Wilson, Port Alberni, and doctor; buried Tseshaht Cemetery, Hector Road, Port Alberni]

Jack Williams (1905/11/19) [NB: DIA Annual Report for year ended 30 June 1906: 'One boy died, of heart failure.']

Katie Taylor (1908/12/12), Register #65; d. Alberni Indian Residential School; tubercular meningitis [NB: letter from principal to Indian Agent dated 17 December 1908 (see LAC c-8759, p. 1502 at:

https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/mass-digitized-archives/school-files-1879-1953/Pages/item.aspx?PageID=2471313

I regret to report the death of Katie Taylor NO. 065 which took place on Dec. 12th from tubercular meningitis. Katie was a full sister to Mary Taylor NO. 062 who died Oct. 1st. from the same sickness. Katie first showed signs of illness about three weeks after her sister's death, the symptoms being a low typhoid, shortly after the symptoms of tubercular meningitis developed and after over seven weeks illness, and after becoming paralyzed in the right side she died. Dr. Morgan our medical officer did all that was possible for the patient.

[NB: principal's report in DIA Annual Report for year ended 31 March 1909:

Attendance. - There are 47 pupils on the roll, 23 boys and 24 girls. Four pupils (boys) were admitted during the year. Two pupils received their discharge, one boy and one girl. Four girls died during the year, 2 from tubercular meningitis, the other 2 from pulmonary trouble.

Health and Sanitation. - The health of the pupils has been fair; two sisters dying of tubercular meningitis, within a short time of one another, was the saddest in our experience. One girl had cold ulcers on her legs, and was allowed home on sick leave; while there her lungs became affected and she died 4 months later. One other girl died of consumption.]

Lily Peal Smith* (1945/12/3), Register #191; 12 yrs old; Kitimat Band; residence Kitimat; born 4 December 1933; father Robert Smith, mother Gertrude Grant, deceased; admitted September 1944 (see LAC c-8760, p. 27); d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; tuberculous meningitis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried by relatives at Kitimat Indian Reserve; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1761-72) [NB: death certificate states name was Lily Smith] [NB: quarterly return dated 31 December 1945 states name was Lily Pearl Smith] [NB: return states: 'Deceased Dec. 3rd (Discharge)' (see LAC c-8760, p. 51)] [NB: statement of Indian Agent at DIA inquiry: 'The father was present at the proceedings and expressed his satisfaction as to the care and treatment of the child.'] [NB: doctor's statement at DIA inquiry: 'Everything was done that could have been done for the pupil. Disease is insidious in onset, with obscure symptoms, and diagnosis was not made in early stages of illness. Symptoms pointed to true condition, only in later stages.']

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states Robert Smith and Gertrude Grant were married 3 September 1924]

[NB: death certificate for father, Robert Victor Smith; residence 255 Kitlope, Kitimat Village; born 24 December 1900, Kitimat Village; parents Mark Smith, Matilda Wilson, both born Kitimat Village; widowed (wife Gertrude Grant); d. 14 April 1974, Kitimat General Hospital, aged 73; death certificate signed by son, Charles Smith, Kitimat, and doctor; buried Kitimat Village]

Maisie Shaw (1946/12/26), [C]; Register #60; 14 yrs old; Nitinat Band; residence Alberni Residential School; born 26 August 1932; parents Walter Shaw and Ella Williams; admitted September 1940; d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; acute rheumatic pericarditis; death certificate signed by doctor and Indian Agent; buried Sheshaht Cemetery, Port Alberni [NB: quarterly return dated 31 March 1943 states: 'Health improving.' (see LAC c-8769, p. 1943)] [NB: quarterly return dated 31 December 1946: 'Died in Hosp Dec. 26th (see LAC c-8760, p. 143)] [NB: discharged 26 December 1946; in school 6 years, 3 months, 26 days: 'Died Dec. 26th in West Coast Hosp. Rheumatic Fever and Heart.' (see LAC c-8761, p. 1941)]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Ella Shaw, states d. 6 March 1937, Alberni, aged 31]

[NB: certificate for father's second marriage states Walter Shaw and Sophie Dennis were married 21 February 1946, Bamfield]

[NB: death certificate for father, Walter Shaw, fisherman; residence Bamfield; born 26 August 1905, New Westminster; father Joseph Shaw, mother unknown; married (wife Sophie Dennis); d. 31 October 1970, Government Wharf, Bird Street, Port Alberni, aged 65; death certificate signed by son, Joseph Shaw, Bamfield, and coroner; buried Nitinat]

[NB: brother Joseph Shaw, Register #143; 16 yrs old; discharged 31 December 1946; at school 4 years 3 months 21 days: 'To assist father in Fishing' (see LAC c-8761, p. 1940)]

[NB: death certificate for brother, Joseph Leslie Shaw, fisherman; residence Pachena Bay, Bamfield; born 23 December 1930, Wayak [Whyac]; parents Walter Shaw, Ella Williams; widowed (wife Sophie Dennis); d. 16 December 1992, West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni, aged 61; death certificate signed by son, Arnold Shaw, Nitinat; buried Nitinat Cemetery]

[NB: death certificate for sister-in-law, Sophie Ivy Dennis; residence Pachena Bay; born 17 February 1927, Sarita River; parents Telford and Sarah Dennis; married (husband Joseph Shaw); d. 9 March 1988, Victoria General Hospital, aged 61; autopsy; death certificate signed by son, Raymond Shaw, 3755-3rd Avenue, Port Alberni; interim medical certificate of death signed by coroner; buried Nitinat Cemetery]

Mary Bob* (1937/2/14), Register #222; 15 yrs old; Nanoose Band; born Nanoose; parents Jimmy Bob, born Nanoose, and Clara, daughter of David Charlie, born Cowichan; d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; broncho-pneumonia; tubercular meningitis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Nanoose Indian Reserve; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1719-26) [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1937/2/**5**] [NB: principal's statement at DIA inquiry:

Died in hospital Feb. 5th. I saw her three or four times during that week, thought she was going down and wrote and phoned her parents. Owing to roads blocked with snow, was not able to get a message through till Thursday, Feb. 4th, by favour of

Nanoose Lumber Co. Father phoned as soon as he got the message and came by train, Thursday P.M., Mother, Friday P.M. Daughter died early Saturday morning. Mother went back on Saturday; Father took the remains Monday, home to Nanoose Bay for burial.]

[NB: sister of Norman Bob below]

[NB: death certificate for father, Jimmy Bob, boom man (logging); residence Indian Reserve, Nanoose Bay; born Nanoose Bay, birthdate unknown; father Nanoose Bob, mother unknown; married (wife Clara Charlie); d. 2 February 1958, Nanoose Indian Reserve, Nanoose Bay, aged 68; death certificate signed by son, Samuel Bob, Nanoose Bay Indian Reserve, and doctor; buried Indian Cemetery, Nanoose Bay]

Mary Elaine George (1964/10/5), [C]; 7 yrs old; residence Alberni; born 4 October 1957, Port Alberni; parents Harold George and Helena Cootes, both born Kildonan; d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; broncho-pneumonia; autopsy; death certificate signed by father, Harold George, 2955 West 38th Avenue, Vancouver, and coroner; buried 1st Reserve, Port Alberni [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1964/10/6] [NB: death certificate lists as' infant' and 'child'; likely not a student]

[NB: death certificate for brother, Harold James George; residence 4537 Bel Street, Port Alberni; student, Alberni District Secondary School; born 23 September 1959, Port Alberni; parents Harold George, born Port Alberni, Heleena Cootes, born Sarrah [Sarita?]; d. 26 February 1981, Victoria General Hospital, aged 21; accident ('Deceased was driving a stolen car, which crashed on a curve and overturned on the Old Island Highway (1A) in the 300 Block, View Royal' 'no apparent cause of death on gross autopsy of the said deceased' 'Toxicology report pending'); autopsy; death certificate signed by friend, Charles Charles, 5303 River Road, Port Alberni, and coroner; buried Alberni Valley Memorial Gardens, Port Alberni]

Mary Taylor (1908/10/1), Register #62; sister of Katie Taylor above; d. Alberni Indian Residential School; tubercular meningitis [NB: see LAC c-8759, p. 1502 above under entry for sister, Katie Taylor]

Maud Jackson (1908/11/1 – 1908/11/30), Register #56; d. at home in Ucluelet; pulmonary trouble [NB: letter from principal to Indian Agent dated 8 December 1908 (see LAC c-8759, p. 1496 at link above):

By letter dated Nov. 29th from Mrs. Jackson of Ucluelet, (mother of Maud Jackson No. 056,) she writes telling me of the death of her daughter. Maud No. 056 left the school on July Ist for her home, she had been suffering from cold ulcers on her legs, which were very slow in healing. She was unable to return at the expiration of her holidays, Dr. Mc.Lean writing that she was unfit to return at that time and that he feared pulmonary trouble might possibly set in. Pulmonary trouble set in later and she died I believe in the vicinity of the Whaling Station Sechart. We regret to report her early death.]

Mitchell Joseph (1969/5/26), [C]; 9 yrs old; residence River Road First Reserve, Port Alberni; born 12 January 1960, Port Alberni; parents Ernest Joseph and Lucy Taylor, both born Port Alberni; d. Alberni Indian Student Residence, Mission Road;

asphyxiation due to hanging (accidental hanging on towel in washroom); death certificate signed by brother, Nelson Joseph, 331 River Road, Port Alberni; autopsy; buried Port Alberni Indian Cemetery [NB: death certificate states name was Mitchell **Henry** Joseph]

[NB: for circumstances, see *Vancouver Sun*, 28 May 1969, p. 13:

Port Alberni – A nine-year-old boy accidentally hanged himself Monday on a towel rack in a washroom at the Alberni Indian Student Residence here.

RCMP said Mitchell Joseph of Port Alberni died when his head became twisted in the loop of towel that feeds continuously from the rack.

Residence administrator John Andrews said the boy went to the washroom about 5:30 p.m. Shortly afterward a supervisor was alerted by another boy who said Joseph was choking in the washroom.

Andrews said the supervisor and a residence nurse applied month-to-mouth resuscitation and fire department inhalator treatment was given but a doctor pronounced Joseph dead at the scene.

"He was a normal lively boy who just didn't know his limits," Andrews said today.]

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states Ernest Joseph, fisherman, Opetchesaht Band, residence Opetchesaht Reserve, Alberni, born Alberni (parents Alfred Joseph, born Alberni, Martha Coutts), bachelor, aged 21, and Lucy Taylor, Opetchesaht Band, residence Opetchesaht Reserve, Alberni, born Alberni (parents Otto Taylor, born Alberni, Irene Sam), spinster, aged 18, were married 22 December 1939, Indian Agent's Office, Port Alberni, witnesses G.A. Hamilton, J. A Sherwood, B.B. Ashbridge officiating]

[NB: death certificate for father, Ernest Joseph, retired; residence 250 Cairnsmore Street, Extended Care Unit, Duncan; born 14 August 1914, Port Alberni; father surnamed Joseph, mother unknown; married (wife Lucy Taylor); d. 28 March 1982, Cowichan District Hospital Extended Care Unit, Duncan, aged 63; death certificate signed by son, Nelson Joseph, River Road, Port Alberni, and doctor; buried Alberni Valley Memorial Gardens, Port Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Lucy Taylor; residence 4411 Wallace Street, Port Alberni; born 15 August 1920, Port Alberni; parents Otto Taylor, Irene Williams; widowed (husband Ernest Joseph); d. 5 July 1992, Fir Park Village, Port Alberni, aged 71; death certificate signed by daughter, Clara Clappis, Bamfield, and doctor; buried Alberni Valley Memorial Gardens, Port Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for brother, Nelson Ernest Joseph, carver; residence 5353 River Road, Port Alberni; born 26 June 1940, Port Alberni; parents Ernest Joseph, Lucy Taylor, both born Port Alberni; widowed (wife Cecelia Ambrose); d. 28 May 1997, 5353 River Road, Port Alberni, aged 56; autopsy; death certificate signed by sister, Clara Clappis, Bamfield; interim death certificate signed by coroner; buried Alberni Valley Memorial Gardens, Alberni Highway, Port Alberni]

[NB: death certificate for sister-in-law, Cecelia Josephine Ambrose; residence 3118 3rd Avenue, Port Alberni; born 13 November 1947, Hesquiaht; parents William Aloysius Ambrose, born Hesquiaht, Louisa Lucas, born Ceepeecee; separated (husband Nelson Joseph); d. 5 September 1995, 3118 3rd Avenue, Port Alberni, aged 47; apartment fire; inquiry pending; autopsy; death certificate signed by sister, Denise Ambrose, Tofino; buried St Peters Catholic Cemetery, Port Alberni]

Nellie Kiutesi (date of death unknown) [DEATH CERTIFICATE NOT YET LOCATED] [NB: possible family members: Albert **Clutesi**, Register #79, 15 yrs old, Sheshaht Band, admitted September 1940, discharged September 1946 (see LAC c-8759, p. 1987 and LAC c-8760, p. 106); Mabel S. **Clutesi**, Register #184, 10 yrs old, Sheshaht Band, admitted September 1944, at Alberni Indian Residential School in June 1945 (see LAC c-8760, p. 27); George **Clutesi**, Register #219, 9 yrs old; Sheshaht Band, admitted September 1945, discharged to day school 30 September 1947 (see LAC c-8760, p. 251)]

Norman Bob* (1942/4/7), Register #119; 8 yrs old; Nanoose Band; born Comox Hospital, Comox; parents Jimmy Bob, born Nanoose Indian Reserve, and Clara, daughter of David Charlie, born Cowichan Indian Reserve; d. at home on "Quamichan" Cowichan Indian Reserve, Duncan; tuberculous meningitis; death certificate signed by Indian Agent (informants parents Mr and Mrs Jimmy Bob, Nanoose Indian Reserve), and doctor; buried Nanoose Indian Reserve; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1755-60) [NB: death certificate states name was Norman James Bob] [NB: statement by Indian Agent at DIA inquiry:

I beg to submit herewith a report on Form No. 414 covering the death of Norman Bob, Roll No. 119 of the Alberni Residential School who took sick while at school and died a few days after being sent home to his parents. This boy is a member of the Nanoose Band and as he attended a Residential School in the West Coast Agency, I asked Mr Ashbridge to hold the necessary Board of Enquiry, which he did, and then sent the report to me to forward to the Department. This may have delayed the Report somewhat, but there was some delay anyway as Mr Ashbridge had to attend the Assize Court at Nanaimo for over a week so that the extra day or two involved will not make much difference, and I trust will be satisfactory to the Department.]

[NB: brother of Mary Bob above]

Shirley Leslie Williams (1963/5/17), [C]; 8 yrs old; residence Pollys Point, Port Alberni; born 11 January 1955, Port Alberni; parents Kenneth Saul Jones, born Nanaimo, and Agnes Myre Williams, born Alberni; d. West Coast General Hospital, Port Alberni; acute rheumatic myocarditis and endocarditis; death certificate signed by mother, Agnes Williams, Port Alberni, and doctor; buried Alberni New Cemetery

Taylor Santo (1906/8/13), Register #53; d. Alberni Indian Residential School; typhoid fever [NB: letter from Superintendent of Indian Affairs dated 23 August 1906 (see LAC c-8759, p. 1475)

I have the honor to forward herewith for the information of the Department, letter dated 18th inst., No 503/8 from Mr Agent Neill West Coast Agency, covering a

communication from the Principal of the Alberni Boarding School, reporting the death on 13th inst., of pupil No 53, Taylor Santo, from Typhoid Fever, supposed to have been contracted at the Steveston Canneries.]

[NB: DIA annual report for year ended 31 March 1907: 'During the year two boys died, one in Victoria shortly after leaving hospital, and another in school of typhoid fever.']

Theodore McKay* (1941/5/22), Register #11; 11 yrs old; Haida Band; born Skidegate; parents James McKay, born Skidegate, and Eliza Moody; d. Alberni Indian Residential School; miliary tuberculosis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Sheshaht Cemetery, Alberni; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1739-44, pp. 1747-8) [NB: death certificates states birth originally registered as **Anthony Alfred** McKay] [NB: Indian Agent's statement at DIA inquiry: 'Records show this boy was examined by the B.C. Provincial T.B clinic in November 1940 and classed as Minim apparently arrested T.B & recommended for 1 year observation and re examination I am satisfied that he was given every care possible at the school & by the Medical Officer'] [NB: statement by principal at DIA inquiry: 'Infirmary ward. Later transferred to private room. Continuous attendance.']

[NB: parents' marriage certificate states James McKay and Eliza Williams were married 28 December 1916, Skidegate]

[NB: death certificate for mother, Eliza McKay, states d. 12 November 1934, Skidegate Mission, aged 37]

[NB: death certificate for father, James McKay, fish packer; residence Skidegate Mission; born 1882; parents surnamed McKay, first names unknown; widowed; d. 29 November 1950, Prince Rupert General Hospital, aged 68; death certificate signed by son, Eugene McKay, Skidegate Mission, and doctor; buried Skidegate Mission;

Violet McKay* (1937/2/14), Register #197; 12 yrs old; Toquaht Band; born Ucluelet; parents James McKay and Mary Touchee, both born Ucluelet; d. West Coast General Hospital; tuberculous meningitis; death certificate signed by doctor; buried Ucluelet; DIA inquiry (see LAC c-8762, pp. 1719-21, 1727-31) [NB: statement of principal at DIA inquiry:

History of Violet McKay's Case, Died Feb 14th/37

Had very bad attack of measles, one of the last to take them, about June 24th; had high temperature and temperature remained up after measles disappeared, which we always considered due to T.B. tendency. She remained in bed till July 17th and went by boat to her parents at Ucluelet. Was under the doctor's care and did not return until about 10 days after the others. Was not looking well but was playful and active as ever. At times she had a vacant stare that struck us as strange and is seen only in cases of meningitis. On Feb. 8th complained of not being well, went to bed and was given laxative and aspirin compound; following day complained of soreness of spinal column. I called Dr. Thomas at once and told him I feared meningitis. He came soon after and said he feared it was T.B. meningitis and as we had her isolated we decided to keep her until next day. She got so much worse through the night that we had to

stay by her bed to keep her in and grew gradually worse toward the next night. Had ambulance and nurse from Port Alberni to remove her to hospital, Wed. Feb. 9th. Grew gradually worse and died in hospital Sunday morning Feb. 14. I had phoned her father, Jimmy McKay at Ucluelet. He came at once and was with her a couple of days before she died. F.E. Pitts]

[NB: possibly sister of Pauline McKay, Register #73; 14 yrs old; Toquaht Band; admitted September 1940; admitted to Coqualeetza 21 December 1944 (see LAC c-8759, p. 2139, LAC c-8760, pp. 21, 143, LAC c-8761, p. 2138]

Virginia Moses (1946/3/15), [C]; Register #120; 14 yrs old; Ohiat Band; residence Sarita Reserve, Bamfield; born 13 November 1931; parents Andrew Moses and Louisa Louie; admitted September 1941 (see LAC c-8759, p. 2003); d. West Coast General Hospital; TB peritonitis due to pulmonary TB; death certificate signed by doctor and Indian Agent; buried Opetchesaht Cemetery, Port Alberni [NB: death certificate states date of death was 1946/3/**16**] [NB: quarterly return dated 31 March 1946 states: 'Deceased March 15th (see LAC c-8760, p. 81)]

[NB: death certificate for father, Andrew Moses, states d. 24 November 1936, Port Alberni, aged 27]

[NB: death certificate for brother, Kelly Moses; Ohiet Band; residence Bamfield; born 18 February 1933; parent Andrew Moses deceased, Louisa Louie; d. 10 January 1949, Bamfield, aged 15; accident (drowning); death certificate signed by doctor and Indian Agent; buried Indian Cemetery, Bamfield]

Yinnito Taylor (1899/7/1 – 1899/7/31), DIA annual report for year ended 30 June 1899: 'Yinnito Taylor, who was about nine or ten years of age, died during July from scrofulous enlargements of the neck'. [NB: DIA annual report is for year ended 30 June 1899; since Yinnito Taylor died in July, date of death was between 1 July and 31 July **1898**]

Compiled by Nina Green 8 November 2021; updated 16 April 2023.