

Powell Street Interview

382 Powell Street

Tadao Wakabayashi explains that 382 Powell Street housed the Sukamoto Rooming House (where millworkers lived), the Shubuya Ladies' Wear clothing store, and a gambling parlour.

TADAO WAKABAYASHI

That Sakamoto store, used to be Sukamoto rooming house, sun room they called themselves. And below this was Ladies' wear.

INTERVIEWERS

Who would stay at the boarding room?

TADAO WAKABAYASHI

Japanese, strictly Japanese around here.

INTERVIEWERS

Was it men or women? They lived there and worked on Powell Street?

TADAO WAKABAYASHI

Oh yes, that's right.

INTERVIEWERS

So people working at the mill?

TADAO WAKABAYASHI

Oh yes, working at the mill at Burrard Inlet. And this is, I'm quite certain, Shubyuya Ladies' Wear. I'm quite certain it is. 378. And then 382 upstairs used to be a gambling place.