

Bamberton offers walking tours

Times Colonist staff

The history of the old Bamberton cement plant north of Victoria is coming alive for summer visitors to the seaside location.

The Bamberton Historical Society is offering 90-minute walking tours of the Bamberton site on Saturdays and Sundays through early September.

The site is now being reclaimed by Three Point Properties, which has proposed a staged residential development there, but many old buildings remain.

Historical society president Maureen Alexander said the role Bamberton-produced cement played

in building the province is surprising to most people.

"Bamberton cement literally built every major project in B.C. in the 1940s, '50s and '60s," she said. "All the big dam projects, road construction, airports, the Dease Tunnel under the Fraser River in Richmond, used cement from Bamberton."

Bamberton cement was also used in projects in many other countries, she said.

The cost of the tours is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. The society's museum is also open on weekends, with admission by donation. All funds raised go to the society's activities.

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