

Interview with Jane Teskey - George and Richard Fair

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[Jane sits in front of a background with three-pole derricks on it.]

Jane: It's George Charles Fair, is his full name. He was born in Wellington County and then they came to Petrolia and lived there. Him and his brother Richard, Thomas, Andrew, Joseph and Samuel all worked for the oil fields here when they first started and then um, I believe because George, Richard, and Thomas, and Andrew at the time, were still single that they got more into the foreign—you know to get more involved and go farther. So George went from here with his brother Richard and I found in the Teriyaki (Taranaki) newspapers in Australia, waiting his arrival. This whole area is excited and waiting for his arrival to happen because he was this famous oil person coming to help them open up their oil fields. And he was representing the companies here. If you get a chance to read those newspapers, you'll see that boy, these guys must have been important to these towns. They must have been wanting and waiting for these—you can read that in their story that they're going to show up. They're going to do this. Richard stayed in New Zealand—or, in Sydney and he worked for an oil company there but George went on to open up the oil fields in New Zealand and his brother Richard stayed in Sydney but about 1914, he got out of the oil business too and they bought the King's Hotel near Sydney, Australia and he stayed there with his family, so.