



TINA FARMILO

## 12 memory stones at crescent beach

Beecher Street and surrounding community, Crescent Beach – brochure with map available February 2002

The innovative Memory Stones at Crescent Beach is a poetic evocation of the history, memories, dreams and stories of the Crescent Beach community past and present. Artist Tina Farmilo spent time researching the history of the region from local people, especially the elders and historians. Tina took the richness of the information she gathered and distilled it into poetic phrases, symbols and references to represent the stories of origin, then had them inscribed on 33 stones. The artwork circles the neighbourhood on a walking-tour through time and space.

References included in the artwork range from traditions of the Coast Salish peoples who populated the regions for over 5,000 years and amassed the vast ancient midden that the community is built upon, the changing nature of the landscape and the natural life of the area, the long tradition of childhood summers at Crescent Beach, and the development of the trains that brought growth and change over time. The stories emphasize how cherished and special the Crescent Beach area has been for generations of people.

Tina Farmilo is an interdisciplinary artist whose work is rooted in concepts of community, place, history, memory and dreams. She believes artists have a role “as truth-bearers - witnesses and cultural front-line workers - in a time when the rifts between psyche, body and soul, and nature and society is resulting in confusion, denial and destruction and world-wide loss of diversity.” Farmilo lives in the Gulf Islands and loves storytelling.

City of Surrey Public and Community Art Collection

