

Early Vancouver

Volume Two

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2011 Edition (Originally Published 1933)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1932.

Supplemental to volume one collected in 1931.

About the 2011 Edition

The 2011 edition is a transcription of the original work collected and published by Major Matthews. Handwritten marginalia and corrections Matthews made to his text over the years have been incorporated and some typographical errors have been corrected, but no other editorial work has been undertaken. The edition and its online presentation was produced by the City of Vancouver Archives to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

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Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 2 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

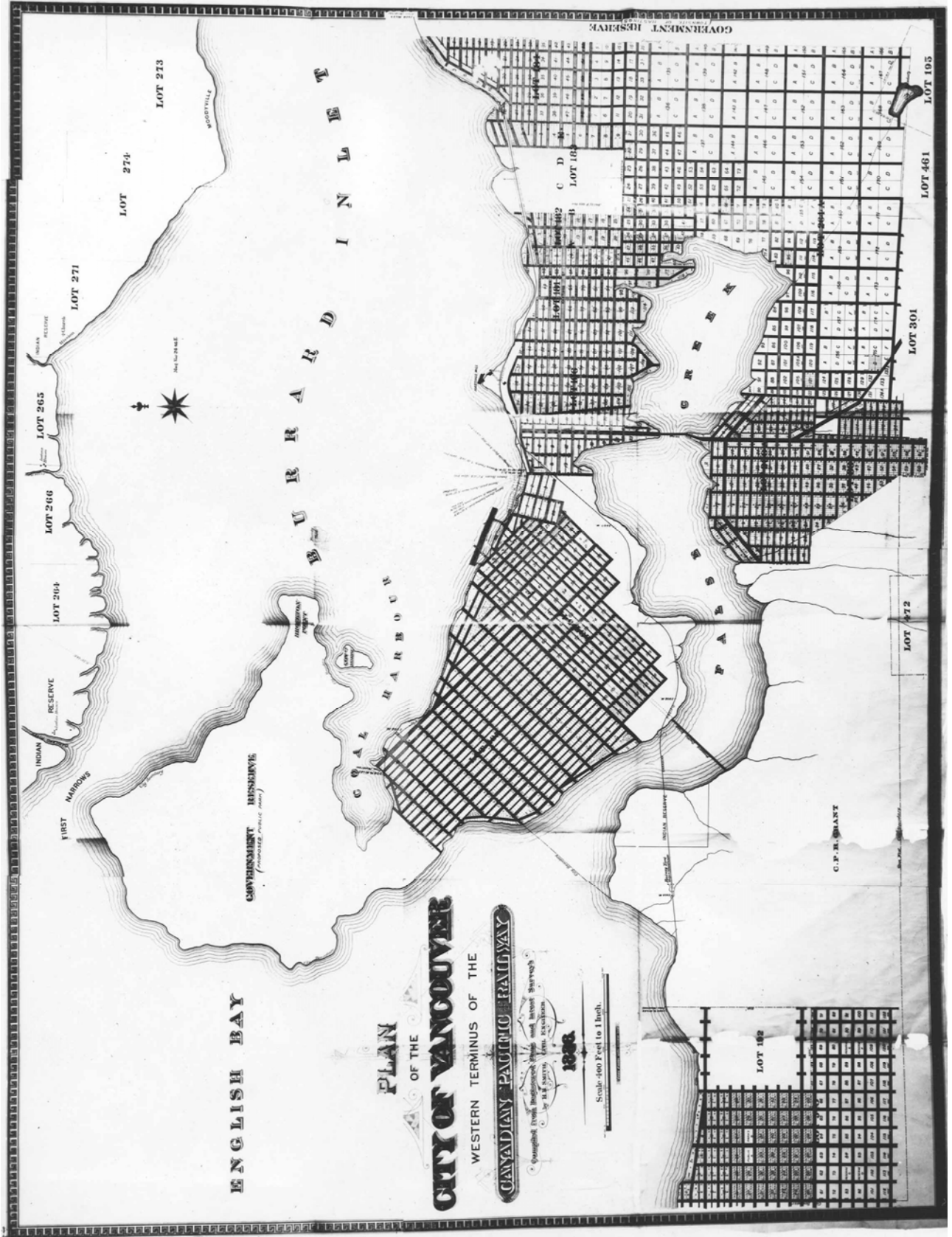
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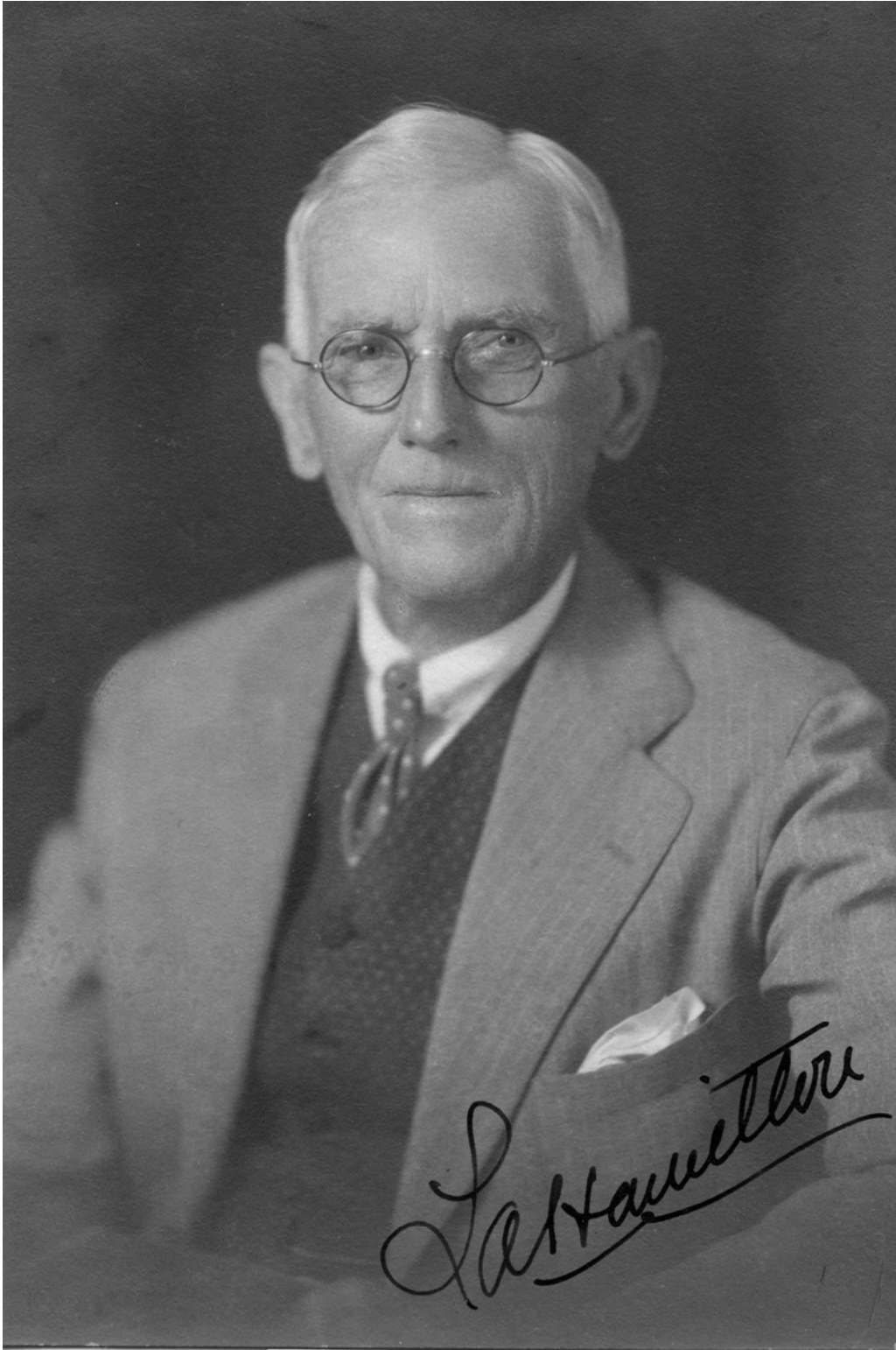
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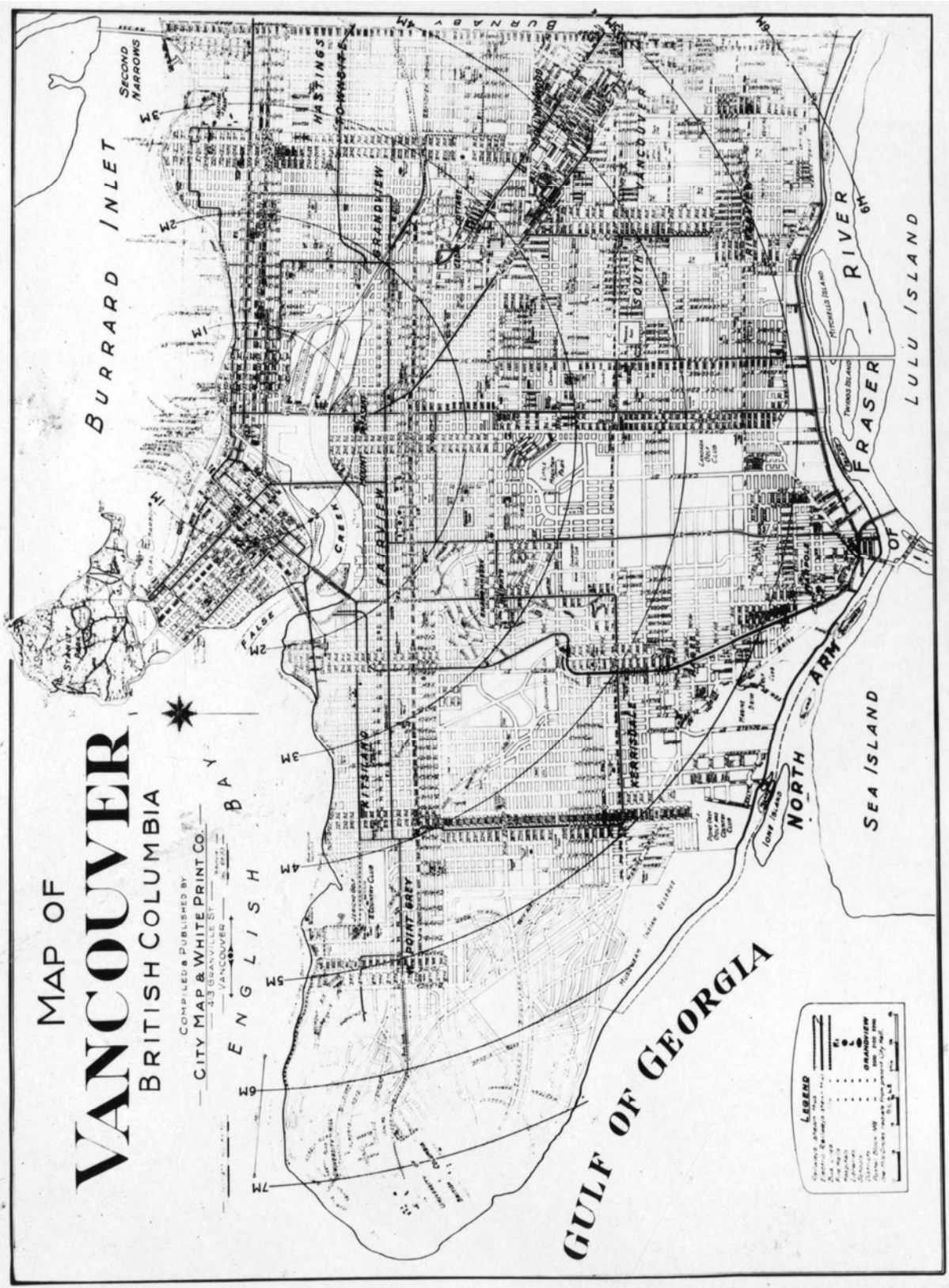


Item # EarlyVan_v2_062



L.A.HAMILTON in 1932
who designed Vancouver
street system in 1885

Item # EarlyVan_v2_063



Item # EarlyVan_v2_064

1 APRIL 1932 - SURVEY OF VANCOUVER. L.A. HAMILTON. HAMILTON STREET.

"L.A. Hamilton, Alderman Hamilton, C.P.R. surveyor, who laid out the site of the city of Vancouver, told me that he started the survey from the corner of Hastings and Hamilton Street, using a nail driven in a wooden post as a starting point."

Remark by the late W.F. Findlay, pioneer, sportsman, and early newspaper reporter, killed in accident, April 1932.

LAUCHLAN ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Alderman L.A. Hamilton, who laid out a large part of the City of Vancouver in 1885, was the son of William Basil Hamilton, first mayor of the town of Collingwood, Ontario, and postmaster there for thirty years or over, and the grandson of James Matthew Hamilton of Province of Ulster, a captain in the 5th Foot Regiment, served with his regiment in various places in Europe and Canada, and ultimately on retiring, received a large block of land in the county of Simcoe, Ontario.

Alderman Hamilton was born at Penetanguishene, 20 September 1852, was a graduate of the School of Military Instruction, 1870, became a civil engineer and land surveyor.

He selected twenty-five million acres of land in the Canadian Northwest, this being part of the Canadian Pacific Railway's subsidy from the government of Canada. Also three million acres in British Columbia, part of a subsidy for branch line railways. He selected and surveyed the lands for numberless towns on the Canadian Pacific Railway, the principal ones being Regina, Moosejaw, Swift Current, Calgary and Vancouver.

He was one of the staff in defining the boundary on the 49th parallel between the Lake of the Woods and Rocky Mountains, 1872, 1873, 1874. Was General Land Commissioner, Canadian Pacific Railway. Surveyed the city of Vancouver. Senior Alderman of the city for two years.

During the Great War was chairman of the Red Cross Society, Chairman of the Patriotic Society, and Judge under the Conscription Act, all in the County of Peel, Ontario.

Owner of a large fruit farm and adjoining golf links at Lorne Park, Ontario. Owner of farm and golf links comprising 640 acres in the city of Kissimmee, Florida.

On September 1879, he married at Toronto, Isobel Leask, and had a daughter, Isobel Ogilvie Hamilton, born Ottawa, 3 October 1880. [NOTE ADDED LATER: Wrong. I have seen her birth certificate. 1881.] And married, secondly, to Constance Bodington, daughter of Dr. George Bodington, M.D. at St. James' Church, Vancouver, 10 April 1888. His sister, Mrs. John Leask, resides (1932) in Collingwood, Ontario.

Authority: genealogy form, dated 3 February 1932 in Mr. Hamilton's own handwriting.