

Early Vancouver

Volume Three

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Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1933-1934.

Supplemental to Volumes One and Two collected in 1931-1932.

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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CONVERSATION WITH GEO. R. GORDON, 30 SEPTEMBER 1933.

THE FIRST ELECTION. COURT HOUSE, GRANVILLE.

"I don't remember much about the old jail (or Court House); I was only in it once or twice. I know this; that, as Mr. W.H. Gallagher says, we did, at the first election, go in to vote at one door and go out another, but I think we went in at the door on Water Street, and went out at the back, and walked out to the road at the back, now Trounce Alley, and circled around, via the road—afterwards Trounce Alley—and some of the voters walked back to the Deighton House for a drink, others to the Sunnyside. I think the door faced Water Street; it was just a bit of a place."

CONVERSATION WITH HARRY DEVINE.

"I don't remember much about the old Court House; it was a small building not more than 12 or 14 feet wide and 20 feet long." (See Cambie map, C.P.R. survey of Granville, February 1886, Land Registry, Vancouver.)

CONVERSATION WITH GEO. R. GORDON, 29 SEPTEMBER 1933, LOOKING AT PHOTO NO. ? BY BAILEY BROS., OF BOARD SHACK WITH FIVE MEN IN FRONT AND SIGN "TREMONT."

TREMONT HOTEL, NEAR POWELL STREET ON CARRALL STREET. GREAT FIRE.

"This first man on the left is Chris. Behnsen, the third is an old sea captain, Captain Clements, the owner of the Tremont—he married Mrs. Farron; Miss Farron is his step-daughter. When I got back from New Westminster the morning after the fire—on June 14th—they were selling booze—with a capital B—across two planks resting on two kegs right in front of this place."

(Fragment of conversation not completely recorded.) "McDougall and I took train from Hammond to Cisco, and crossed the Fraser on a basket, and went on up the Thompson" (river) "by stage." Hammond was, at that time, the terminus of the railway.

POST OFFICE. GRANVILLE STREET AND PENDER STREET.

Weekly News-Advertiser, Wednesday, 14 May 1890, says plans have been received for the new Post Office at the corner of Granville and Pender streets. It will be three storeys high, 64½ feet on Granville and 115 on Pender Street, etc., etc.

Note: one of Bailey Bros. photos shows the stone blocks being assembled on the ground; the photo is No. 352-355. Also, Nos. 721-3 ought to be examined.

FIRST ASSIZE COURT IN VANCOUVER.

The first Assize Court in Vancouver was held on 17 November 1892. (See Photostat of newspaper account of proceedings. Judge Bole and Judge ?)

THOMAS DUNN.

Thos. Dunn, afterwards well-known hardware man of Vancouver and Dawson (Thos. Dunn Hardware Co.), was a commercial traveller for the large wholesale hardware firm of Samuel Benjamin of Toronto.

FIRST METHODIST PARSONAGE.

Was built on Lot 14, Block 6, O.G.T. which, together with the adjoining lot, No. 15, was kindly donated by the Provincial Government. (See *Weekly News-Advertiser*, 3 October 1888. Also see *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 2.)