

**Early Vancouver**

**Volume Three**

**By: Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.**

**2011 Edition (Originally Published 1935)**

*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 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City's founding. The project was made possible by funding from the Vancouver Historical Society.

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Footnote or Endnote Reference:

Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 3 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 3. Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011.

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**PROVINCIAL LIBRARY  
VICTORIA, B.C.**

October 5, 1934.

Major J.S. Matthews,  
City Archivist,  
Temporary City Hall,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Dear Major Matthews:

The passage from DOUGLAS for which you are searching is quoted in Sage's "Sir James Douglas and British Columbia," page 320. Douglas left Victoria on May 10, 1861, as you state. He reached New Westminster the same evening and remained there a week. The notes made by him at the time include the following passage:

"The North road to Burrard Inlet is finished and that to English Bay is carried as far as False Creek. Another line, an extension of Douglas street, is completed to Burnaby Lake, and a line extending downwards on the N. Branch of Fraser's River. It is to be carried as far as McKees farm. Letters will find access by these roads into the country which is so thickly wooded as to be otherwise impassable, and I trust that flourishing settlements will soon be formed in every part of the District which is intersected by these thoroughfares."

The text states that this is taken from his diary, and I have done my best to locate the original, but without success so far. I have not yet given up hope, and if I find it will let you know at once.

Yours sincerely,

KL:GH

W. Kaye Lamb.  
Provincial Librarian and Archivist.

**EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MISS MADGE WOLFENDAN, 22 AUGUST 1934.**

"In regard to the trail to Burrard Inlet—Judge Howay says in his book on the work of the Royal Engineers in B.C., 'In this year' (1859) 'the Engineers also built a trail from New Westminster to Burrard Inlet, along the line on which in 1861 they constructed the road, which exists to-day, known as the North Road.'"

**EARLY ROADS NEAR BURRARD INLET AND NEW WESTMINSTER.**

**NEW WESTMINSTER-BURRARD INLET ROAD.**

In his despatch of 20 January 1861, Douglas mentions the road from New Westminster to Burrard's Inlet, nine miles, as being in progress, amongst other roads.

**NORTH ARM ROAD.**

Letter of Joseph W. Trutch:

Land & Works Dept.  
New Westminster.  
19 May, 1864.

This is to certify that Mr. Hugh McRoberts having completed the road along the North Arm, Fraser River, is entitled to receive the balance of Three Hundred and Thirty-seven Pounds, Eight Shillings, in Land Scrip, due him by the Govt. of B.C. as per agreement dated 3 Sept., 1862.

[signed] Joseph W. Trutch,  
Surveyor General.

## **WAGGON ROAD.**

Letter of Joseph W. Trutch:

Land & Works Dept.  
New Westminster.  
25 Aug, 1864.

Sir: I have the honor to enclose a copy of a letter recd. today from Mr. Thos. Martin, and to request your instructions regarding his application.

Mr. Martin's farm is situated at the mouth of the North Arm of the Fraser River. A waggon road has been constructed on the line of this trail up to a point about 1000 yards on the New Wr. side of Mr. Martin's farm—it was designed by Col. Moody that this waggon Road should be extended along the line of the trail to the Point above named on the Gulf.

The circumstances stated by Mr. Martin in his letter are substantially correct, and he seems to be deserving of some consideration.

Should it not be inconvenient to expand the sum of \$500 at present and if it be intended to carry out the design about specified of continuing the waggon road to the Gulf—the main object of which was to keep open communication at periods when the Fraser is blocked with Ice so as to prevent vessels coming to New Wr.—I should recommend that the portion of road which is wanting to permit Mr. Martin access to town be undertaken at once.

I have &c.

sig. of Joseph W. Trutch,

C.C.L.W. &c.

## **DOUGLAS STREET ROAD.**

From *The British Columbian*, 13 May 1865.

"We believe that this road is at length completed; Mr. J.T. Scott, the contractor, drove His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Colonial Secretary over it yesterday."

## **WAGGON ROAD TO STAMP'S MILLS.**

From *The British Columbian*, 13 May 1865.

"... A proposition has been made to the Government by Capt. Stamp, for constructing a waggon road from the termination of Douglas Street road down the Inlet to a point opposite the site selected for the mills; the terms of the proposition being that each party should bear an equal share of the expense of construction ... with its mills ... Burrard Inlet is evidently destined to become a place of no inconsiderable importance."

## **BRIGHTON.**

### **BRIGHTON ROAD.**

From *The British Columbian*, 3 October 1867: An advertisement for Lake House on the road half way to "Brighton."

From *The British Columbian*, 9 January 1869: "Thoroughfare needed renovation." Also in issues of 27 February 1869, 17 March 1869, 21 March 1869 and 25 April 1869.

From *The British Columbian*, 28 March 1869: paragraph on "The Brighton Telegraph."