

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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SQUATTERS.

"McGregor—I have told you about him previously—squatted on Lot 7, Block IV, O.G.T., and got it. I squatted on Lot 9, Block III, but they scared me out, and I did not get it. I helped McGregor cut a trail from about the corner of Abbott and Water streets" (see J.B. Henderson) "to his squatter's lot at about the corner of Cambie and Cordova; just a narrow trail you could squeeze through, straight from point to point—as straight as you could cut it."

GRANVILLE.

"There was the greatest lot of big trees down there along Water and Cordova streets you ever saw; great big spruce trees, seven or eight feet thick; I remember when the C.P.R. came through they cut some down ten or eleven feet through." (See Pat Myers, Jas. McWhinnie, and George Cary.)

MRS. SULLIVAN.

(See Rev. C.M. Tate, etc., and photo No. ?) "Mrs. Sullivan was a grand old lady. She was not a negress, she was a mulatto; so was Mr. Sullivan."

PENDER STREET CAR LINE.

"Did it not ever strike you as peculiar that the first street car line west of Granville should run down Pender Street, along the edge of a district instead of down the middle? Well, the reason that was done was because the old Post Office was erected on the" (southwest) "corner of Pender and Granville, and the car line led to the Post Office, and saved them walking."

GRANVILLE, 1884. WATER STREET, 1884.

(See photo No. ?) Remark by George Cary: "This" (remarkable) "photo must be earlier than April or May 1886; it must be April or May 1885, because when I came here in April 1886, Water Street was more built up. The leaves on the old Maple Tree in the distance show that it was taken in the summer; the Maple Tree was burned in June 1886, so it must have been April or May 1886, or a previous year; the picture was not taken in 1886; I am satisfied of that; it must be 1885, perhaps fall of 1885, after the trees east of Carrall Street were cut down."

EXPLANATION OF THIS PHOTO NO. ? BY HAROLD E. RIDLEY.

PORTUGUESE JOE. WATER STREET. INDIAN CHURCH.

North side.

"Birdie" Stewart's small shack with verandah. (See *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 1, Gallagher.)

Methodist Parsonage, with chimney, and cable end only.

Appears to be Parsonage stable.

Shop front, Mrs. Ben Wilson's store, formerly Portuguese Joe's.

New building, think Chinese laundry.

Geo. Black's butcher shop.

Sunnyside Hotel.

Gassy Jack's first saloon, i.e., small white speck, low, in front of Sunnyside Hotel. It stood almost on the beach.

Forest beyond on Westminster Avenue, now Main Street.

South side.

Maple Tree, form just visible as dark shadow.

Deighton Hotel, front.

Granville Hotel roof and front.

Blair's (not shown) too far back.

Sullivan's store.

Dr. McMaster's place, not shown.

Robertson's saloon, "Hole in the Wall."

McCartney drug store, southwest corner Abbott Street (upstairs, Dr. Langis' office.)

Building being erected (unknown).

The photographer, in taking this photo, must have stood in the middle of Water Street between Lot 12, Block VI, and Lot 5, Block V, O.G.T.

This negative was left with Phillip Timms about 1900 by an unknown person, retained by him until 1934, when he brought it to the City Archivist to know what it was. The City Archivist identified it.

THE FAMOUS MAPLE TREE. GEORGE CARY. "STAG AND PHEASANT."

George Cary, and his dog, the dog which used to climb up the famous Maple Tree to retrieve balls of paper, are shown in photo No. ? of the "Stag and Pheasant" Saloon (on the left of the photograph).

WATER STREET BEFORE THE FIRE.

Order of buildings, south side (according to Geo. Cary's memory, 1934.)

Regina Hotel (not fully completed day of fire, 13 June 1886.)

Cambie Street.

"Scotts Grey" Saloon.

"Stag and Pheasant" Saloon.

Carter House (hotel).

Scoullar's tin shop.

Hayden's.

Edinburgh Hotel.

Strathey's Restaurant. (See Mrs. Eldon, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 1, and photo No. ?)

Perhaps McCartney's drug store next on corner.

Abbott Street.

EXCERPT FROM LETTER, 7 JUNE 1933, PROVINCIAL ARCHIVES, TO J.S.M.

"As to William H. Rowling, he was, of course, a Royal Engineer. We have in the Archives a letter from Lieut.-Col. J.S. Hawkins to Governor Douglas at Hope, October 18, 1861, which relates to the work of His Majesty's Boundary Commission, and it would appear that certain of the Royal Engineers were instructed to work for the International Boundary Commission. The Hawkins letter states 'Corporal William H. Rowling has completed a term of twelve years with the Royal Engineers, and is having a further two years with the Boundary Commission ... is due for discharge ... and is asking permission to remain in the colony after the withdrawal of the Boundary Commission, and to receive grant of land given to colonists.' There is a marginal note stating 'assent given.' So much for William H. Rowling, R.E."