

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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JERICO. 7 AUGUST 1872.

The first appearance of the name Jericho which has been found so far, appears in a letter written by Tompkins Brew, Revenue officer and Constable at Burrard Inlet, and appears over his signature in a letter published in the *Mainland Guardian*, 7 August 1872, and says in part:

“One of the boats captured with Brown and Shipley’s plunder,” “Constable Miller jumped out of the boat to come to my assistance and returned the rifle fire with his revolver,” “it is to be hoped the battle of *Jericho* would be forgotten.”

(Signed) Tompkins Brew.

THE METHODIST PARSONAGE, GRANVILLE. REV. C.L. THOMPSON.

Remarks of Miss Marion Thompson (daughter of Rev. C.L. Thompson) of Vancouver Public Library, born in the Methodist Parsonage at Granville, Burrard Inlet.

“Mother lived at the parsonage on Water Street, and I was born there, in the parsonage. I think Rev. Mr. Turner was the first Methodist minister, then followed Rev. Cornelius Bryant, Father, Rev. C.L. Thompson came next, for three years; then Rev. Ernest Hall—at the time of the fire in 1886—and finally Rev. Ebenezer Robson.

“Mother has told me that there was a beautiful view of Burrard Inlet from every window of the parsonage; she used to like to look out over the beautiful primeval scene; this was because the house was built on the angle before anyone bothered about such things as lot boundaries. It faced northeast.” (See C.P.R. right of way map deposited Land Registry, 12 May 1886.)

“Mother has told me about the pigs digging clams with their snouts on the beach in front of the house, and the crows following them up” (see Mrs. Ruth Morton in “First Settlers of Burrard Inlet” – Matthews) “and feeding from the bits of clams. The crows did a bit of hunting themselves. Mother told me that for a long time she could not make out what caused a noise on the roof of the parsonage which sounded like small pebbles rolling down the shingles. She found out finally it was the crows dropping clams—as they still do—from the air on to the roof—to break the shells so that the inside could be got at and eaten on the ground by the crows.”

Miss Thompson permitted copying of early pictures of Granville, 1882, showing Robertson’s saloon and Blair’s house, and also a very early photo of the Hastings Sawmill with a long row of employees spread out in the foreground. (Photo in City Archives.)

THE JAIL, GRANVILLE, 1870. ARCHIBALD JOHNS.

“The old jail had just two cells,” said Archibald Johns, son of an early collector of Customs (said to be the first in Vancouver). Mr. Johns was born in Nanaimo; he died two days after this remark in Grandview Hospital (winter of 1933-1934).

His remark refers to old log jail shown in Trutch’s map of Townsite of Granville, March 1870. (See Harold Ridley, 30 September 1933.)

WATERCOLOUR OF BURRARD INLET, PRESENTED BY MRS. J.H. SENKLER IN 1933.

HASTINGS SAWMILL. DOMINION DAY.

Mrs. Senkler: “Mother” (Mrs. A.N. Richards, wife of Lieutenant Governor Richards) “painted it while staying with Captain J.A. Raymur at his house at Hastings Sawmill; it was while she was the Lieutenant Governor’s wife. She came up on a tug. Father did not come with her. Mother told me she walked through dense forest to Granville. It was the occasion of the first Dominion Day Celebration on Burrard Inlet. I think 1880—anyway before 1881.”