

Early Vancouver

Volume Three

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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 125th 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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by his son to have said that its proper name was "Tindall's [?] Creek.") There was a dam in the creek above the brewery.

It is shown in the Royal Engineer survey notes of March 1883, also on the official map of Vancouver. (H.B. Smith, C.E. of 1886.)

It flowed down quite a deep ravine, which ran back to the near the corner of Georgia and Howe streets, ending in a swale. The ravine was filled in about 1890, and is mentioned in Mayor Oppenheimer's printed book of printed reports re Vancouver. The portion *below* the present Hastings Street is still unfilled, and the remains of the old stone walls of the Brewery are still visible close beside Hastings Street on the west side of ravine. Nearby, a few yards westward, is the entrance to the C.P.R. tunnel.

The foundations of the wooden houses on Pender Street, erected in the early 1890s, have recently been giving much trouble by sinking; probably much wood and debris was thrown in when the ravine was filled up, and this has rotted.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. DAVIDSON, PIONEER WATCHMAKER, CORDOVA STREET, 13 JUNE 1934.

C. GARDNER JOHNSON. L.A. HAMILTON.

"One day, a long time ago, at a meeting, Gardner Johnson had to make a speech; I was sitting right in front of him, and he pointed to me and said, 'Davidson here knows all about what I went through down in Manitoba. When I got to Granville I was broke, and went to the hotel, the first one you come to along Water Street. There was a pile of cordwood outside the hotel, and I said to the proprietor, 'Will you let me cut that cordwood up?' The proprietor replied, 'Young fellow, you don't need to cut that cordwood up; you can stay here as long as you like.'

"Then once, sometime after, L.A. Hamilton came along and wanted to go to catch the train at Port Moody. I got a row boat and rowed him up there,' continued Johnson. 'There were three valises as well as Hamilton, and it was a long way to row, and what do you think he gave me when he got out of the boat? Why, just one great big silver cartwheel'" (American dollar), "and I had to row back too.'" (C. Gardner Johnson arrived in Granville, 1885.)

VANCOUVER EXHIBITION.

"Yes, the late J.R. Seymour was right. We did try to put the Vancouver Exhibition on the Kitsilano Indian Reserve. Jonathan Miller was one of those who tried to establish a Vancouver Fair; he knew the Indians, and we approached them through him. My recollection is that the Indians were to get \$1,900 an acre; that was some time in the '90s, but as you know, the thing fell through."

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH H. WINDEBANK, MISSION CITY, 13 JUNE 1934.

JOHN MORTON.

"John Morton and I were very close friends; his Mission ranch was right in front of my place, right on the river bank; I think the eastern boundary was the railway track, the branch line down to Seattle. He used to tell me about his troubles with Joe, his son. He told me that he offered the Mission ranch to Joe, but Joe told him he did not want it, that he could keep his 'old ranch.' He used quite strong language in declining his father's offer. Joe was very excitable. John told me he had deeded the ranch to Lizzie, his daughter, but whether he ever did or not I don't know. John was a very sterling old fellow; very reliable when dealing with cattle. I put a small ice plant in my hotel to keep my meat, and from this I gradually developed into the butcher business, and bought cattle from John; we never had a dispute."