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

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SALE OF LOTS. HASTINGS.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that a portion of the Town Site Reserve on Burrard Inlet, at the terminus of the Douglas Street Road from New Westminster, has been laid out into lots, which will be offered for sale, and Public Auction, at the Court House, New Westminster, on 10th July, next ensuing.

The Town will be called "Hastings," and plans of the surveyed portion thereof may be seen at this Office and at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, New Westminster.

The upset price of lots will be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00).

CONDITIONS OF SALE

Payments to be made in cash, as follows, viz.:—one half the price bid for the lot to be paid on the knock of the hammer, and the remaining half on the 10th September, next ensuing, to the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works of New Westminster District, at his Office at New Westminster, or at the Lands and Works Office, Victoria.

The holders of lots on which substantial improvements have been made will be allowed to purchase the same at the upset price, on proving to the satisfaction of the Government that such improvements have been made by them on the said lots prior to the date of this notice.

The Certificates of Receipt will not be transferable and Crown Grants will be invariably issued in the name of the original purchaser only.

In default of payment of either of the said installments on the day appointed for such payments as aforesaid, the lot will positively be forfeited to the Government, together will all improvements thereon, and all money which may have been paid in respect thereof.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock, noon.

For further particulars and information, apply at the Lands and Works Office, Victoria, or at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Lands and Works, New Westminster.

By Command.

Joseph W. Trutch

Lands and Works Office, Victoria, May 14th, 1869.

File 44625-A

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 2nd instant, we are unable so far to trace who or what gave rise to the idea of the Auction Sale of July 10th, 1869, beyond the statement in the notice (copy enclosed).

H.M. Ball, stipendiary Magistrate and Assistant Commissioner of Lands at New Westminster at that time submitted an application on May 28th, by one Henry V. Edmonds to act as auctioneer at the sale of Hastings lots proposed to be held on July 10th. It would appear this sale was held at New Westminster as Ball suggests that when the next sale is held it should be at Hocking's near the site of the town.

H.V. Edmonds was the auctioneer on July 10th, he claimed to be the only one in the district and he was paid "at a rate of commission not exceeding one per cent of the amount realized at the sale."

Forty-four lots were offered at the upset price of \$50.00 each. Seven were sold Nos. 2, 3, 4 to Maximilian Michaud; 9 and 36 to Wm. Reed Lewis; 34 and 35 to Ebenezer Brown.

We do not find that anyone by the name of Hockings was a purchaser, Lot No. 1 on the creek was not sold until 1889 when it was included in the C.P.R. right of way.

I regret we do not appear to have a copy of the "plan of Hastings" used at the sale and showing the old buildings you refer to.

Yours truly,

H. Cathcart,

Deputy Minister.

Major J.S. Matthews, 2083 Whyte Ave., Kitsilano Beach, Vancouver, B.C.



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THE DOUGLAS ROAD

Remarks of James McWhinnie at Pioneer's Picnic, 11 June 1933.

"The Douglas Road was just a narrow trail, no wider than a wagon; you bumped over it most of the way, bumpity, bumpity bump over the corduroy. There was no room to pass. Many a time I have had to pull up to let another vehicle pass, for, when you have to pass, it was hard enough, goodness knows, to find a place wide enough to do it. Then as you neared Burrard Inlet, got quite close, once in a while you got a glimpse, perhaps, through the trees, of a bit of water in the distance, Burrard Inlet."