

Early Vancouver

Volume Four

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1944)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1935-1939.

Supplemental to Volumes One, Two and Three collected in 1931-1934.

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.

Copyright Statement

© 2011 City of Vancouver. Any or all of *Early Vancouver* may be used without restriction as to the nature or purpose of the use, even if that use is for commercial purposes. You may copy, distribute, adapt and transmit the work. It is required that a link or attribution be made to the City of Vancouver.

Reproductions

High resolution versions of any graphic items in *Early Vancouver* are available. A fee may apply.

Citing Information

When referencing the 2011 edition of *Early Vancouver*, please cite the page number that appears at the bottom of the page in the PDF version only, not the page number indicated by your PDF reader. Here are samples of how to cite this source:

Footnote or Endnote Reference:

Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 4 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 4. Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011.

Contact Information

City of Vancouver Archives
1150 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J9
604.736.8561
archives@vancouver.ca
vancouver.ca/archives



CEDAR COTTAGE.

Excerpt, *Province*, Saturday, 3 January 1925.

“Councillor Arthur M. Wilson was the ‘father’ of the Cedar Cottage district. A native of England, he came to Vancouver in the late eighties, and acquired some thirty or forty acres of land in that vicinity, which he cultivated as a nursery and market garden. His house, from the wood used in its construction, was known as the ‘Cedar Cottage,’ and thus the district acquired its name. After Mr. Wilson’s death, in the middle nineties, the nursery was divided into building lots, and Mr. Walker, of the Land Registry Office, now lives on the site of the historic ‘Cedar Cottage.’”

HARDING MEMORIAL, STANLEY PARK.

Mr. Allan, of A.S. Allan & Co. Ltd., stone masons, 880 Beach Avenue, told me that he got fourteen thousand dollars for making it. He did not say if this included Charles Marega’s—the sculptor—bill for designing it.

J.S. Matthews,
30 August 1937.

EXCERPT, *THE VANCOUVER SUN*, 1 SEPTEMBER 1934.

FIGHT FOR MAYOR’S GOLDEN CHAIN DONORS WANT MONEY BACK “IT’S NO USE IN A VAULT”

By C.H. Mackay

The shadow of the law courts today dimmed the yellow sheen of Vancouver’s golden chain of mayoral office.

There was a possibility that the persons who subscribed in 1912 to a private fund to buy the beautiful bauble, might start friendly suit against the city to have its legal status cleared up.

Some seek a return of the chain to those who bought it, with a view to melting it down and splitting in the proceeds. There is almost \$1000 worth of gold at stake and hard times have made its recovery a valuable affair.

To obtain it, however, hundreds of dollars worth of expert craftsmanship would evaporate in the goldsmith’s crucible and a wealth of civic tradition would lose its outward symbol.

The chain is entombed today in the vaults of Henry Birks & Sons Ltd., who made it and have held it in custody under authority of the City Council.

Renewed interest in it was brought a possibility that it will be brought out for display.

FOR ART GALLERY

Questioned today by the *Vancouver Sun*, Mayor L.D. Taylor said he favoured turning it over to the Vancouver Art Gallery for exhibition in a glass case.

“We certainly don’t need the money very badly,” His Worship declared, “and it would be a shame to destroy the chain for the mere sake of getting the gold.”

The Mayor agreed that it is practically useless where it is. The citizens might be permitted to admire it in as much as it is costing them about \$60 a year in foregone interest on money which a sale would bring.

USED THREE TIMES

As far as could be learned today, the chain has been used for its official purpose only three times in its 22 years.