

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.

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Contact Information

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



“Dr. W.J. McGuigan’s office was over Jack Levy’s tobacco store, diagonally across Cordova Street on the opposite” (north) “side, and a little to the west.” (See photo No. P. Str. 41.) “Afterwards we moved to a situation a little further to the west in the same block, same” (south) “side of street.”

COSMOPOLITAN HOTEL.

“James A. Tift was general manger of the wooden Cosmopolitan Hotel when it was first built at the northwest corner of Abbott and Cordova Street. The first day it opened they took in sixty-five cents, and no more; it was *too far uptown*.”

Note: this famous hostelry is shown in the well-known photo of the first Dominion Day Parade in Vancouver, 1 July 1887.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH A.P. HORNE, 4025 GRANVILLE STREET, 4 MAY 1939.

BOWEN ISLAND. SNUG COVE. DEEP COVE. JOSEPH MANNION.

Mr. Horne said: “You remember Gordon Legg, manager of the Union Steamship Company. Well, he said to me one day, ‘Let’s go and find Bowen Island.’ So Legg and myself, and two others, the four of us, got into two skiffs, sailed out of the Narrows, tacked over to Jericho, then over to Point Atkinson, and finally reached Bowen Island, and went up to see Joseph Mannion at his place. He asked us where we had come from, and his wife prepared a nice meal for us. So then he asked us where we were going to sleep, and we said we had a tent, and were going to sleep on the beach. But he said that would not do; we were to take the barn, and sleep in that. So we slept in the barn, and about daylight a horse poked his nose in the door, gave a mighty snort, which woke up all, and we turned over and went to sleep again, and presently, Joe appeared in the door and said we were to come in for breakfast. We said, ‘Oh, no,’ but he insisted, and we went in and had a good breakfast.

“He said he was so glad to see ‘a face’ that he could talk to; it was rather lonely, and he was glad to have a visitor.

“Fine, old, kindly gentleman, Joseph Mannion.”

JOHN HOSIE, PROVINCIAL ARCHIVIST.

OBITUARY, AUGUST 1934.

A great friend to Vancouver. When most were indifferent, many found difficulty, and some jeered, he urged, “Keep on; keep on.”

What those stout words, uttered when all was dark, has meant to those of Vancouver, none may learn, yet millions know. His encouragement sustained a faltering step; his aid supported a genesis as it staggered to stand.

Matthews.

See his printed report on City Archives to City Council, February 1934.

[LETTER FROM T. FRED CLULOW.]

Shushartie,
March 31/36, V.I.

PLAN OF FIRST HOSPITAL
(attached)

J.S. Matthews Esq.
Vancouver.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 23rd to hand, am much obliged for your kindness enclosing poem.