

Early Vancouver

Volume Four

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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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“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.

You mention you have only found four persons. I know the two Doctors, and I think J.B. Kay, but not McConnell. You mention my letter of July 1932, it was written by E. Brown a friend of mine but the fact is I arrived in Victoria first and arrived in Vancouver, May 2nd, 1886. My home was at Brierley Hill 10 miles from B'ham, and was induced to come to B.C. by the late Noah Shakespeare, Post Master of Victoria, who in '85 was visiting his home town and happened to be a friend of my family.

I entered the hospital in late May, and was discharged (but not a good job on my ankle) Aug. 29/87. I had a broken ankle and some small bones of my left foot broken, in falling 30' from a building. I was painting for Mr. Ross a former partner of Mr. Lambert. As for seeing me in Vancouver this summer it depends on my financial state, it does not look very promising for me at present, but shall try and make it. These times have made it very hard for me, as I have exhausted my ready cash, and only own some lots at Port Hardy—and my allowance is a mere trifle \$7.50 per month, which I augment by my chickens and fishing salmon.

Are there no record of who was in the Hospital in 1886-87.

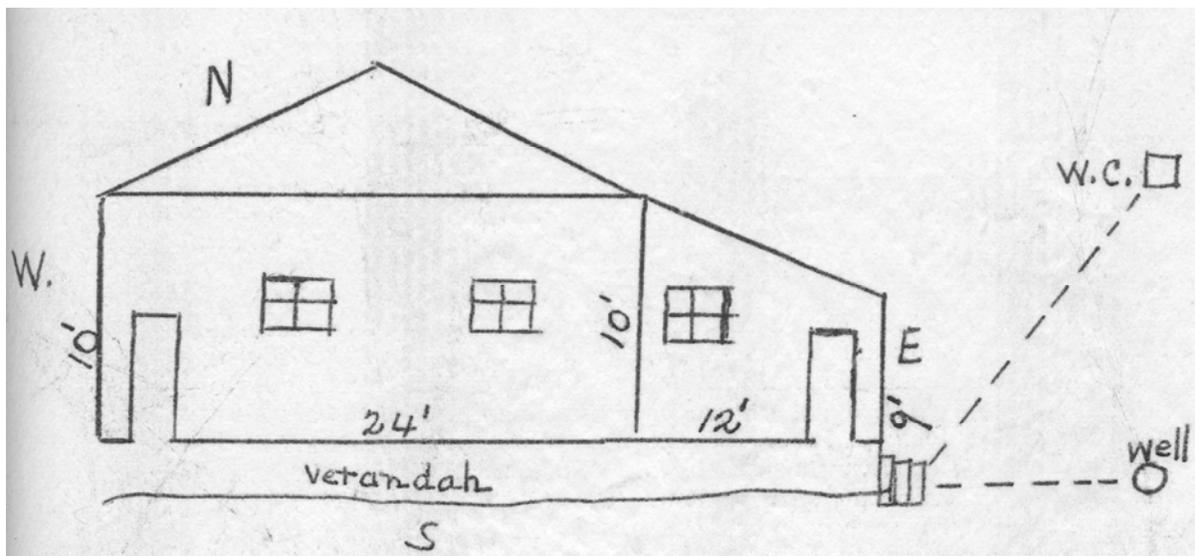
I was sorry to see in the paper the death of Mr. Tisdall, at one time I was intimately acquainted with him, he was a very fine man, but time is taking toll of a lot of us old timers.

Hoping to hear from you in reply,

I remain,

Yours truly,

{signed} T. Fred Clulow.



Item # EarlyVan_v4_030

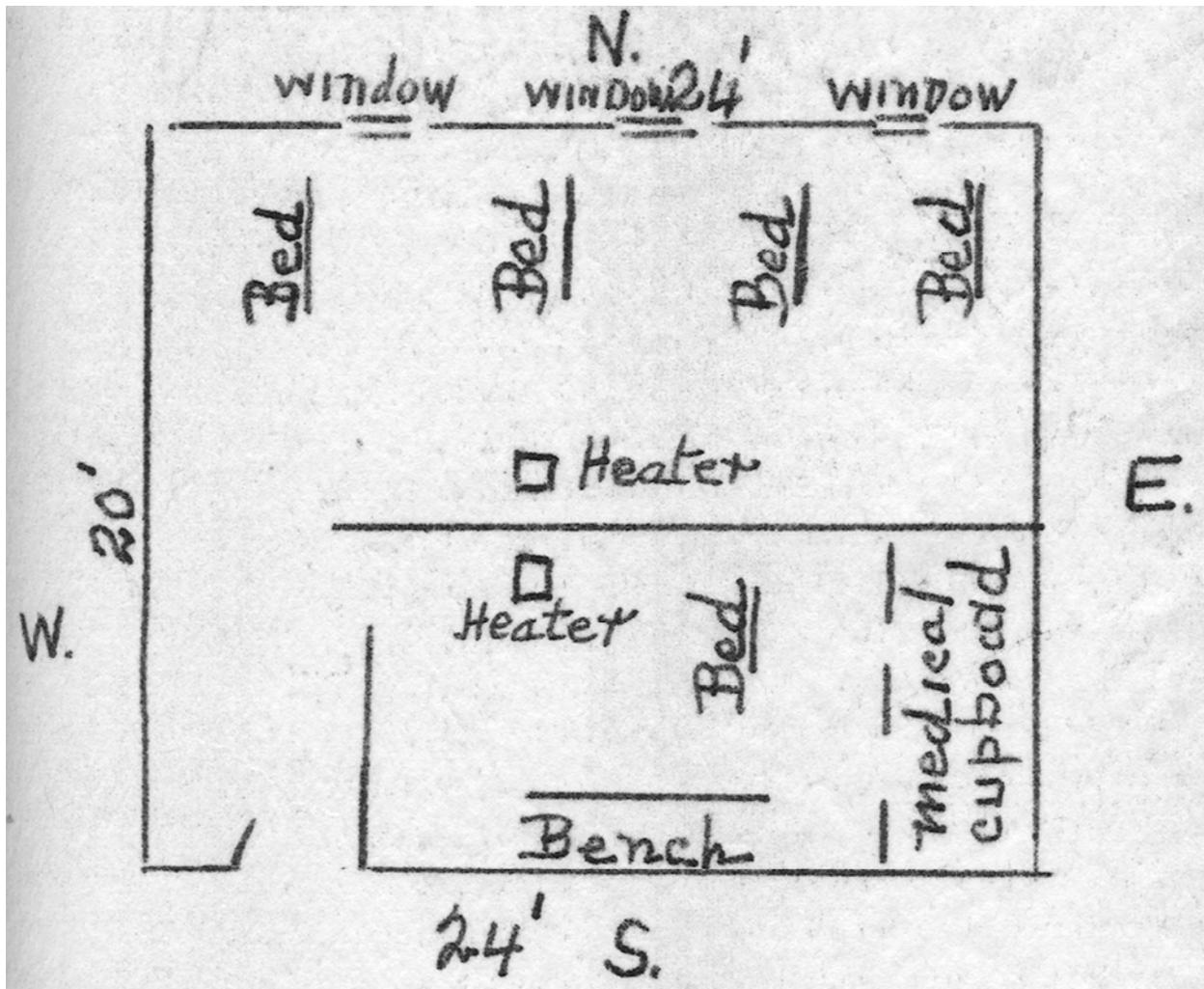
Board and batten, faced street, lean-to E; verandah faced street; C.P.R. track 200' about; building not painted; no stretchers, operating table boards on trestles. Well, about 75', and toilet 100' from lean-to, no facilities for sewerage, no upstairs, all on ground floor.

The plan of the hospital I have made is almost as crude as the hospital was, but you can improve on it as the dimensions are as near as possible.

There were two tents, about ½ mile from Hospital which sheltered two or three men with small pox, and attendant, as small pox was prevalent, while I was in Hospital.

{signed} T. Fred Clulow.

Shushartie, V.I.
Mar. 1936.

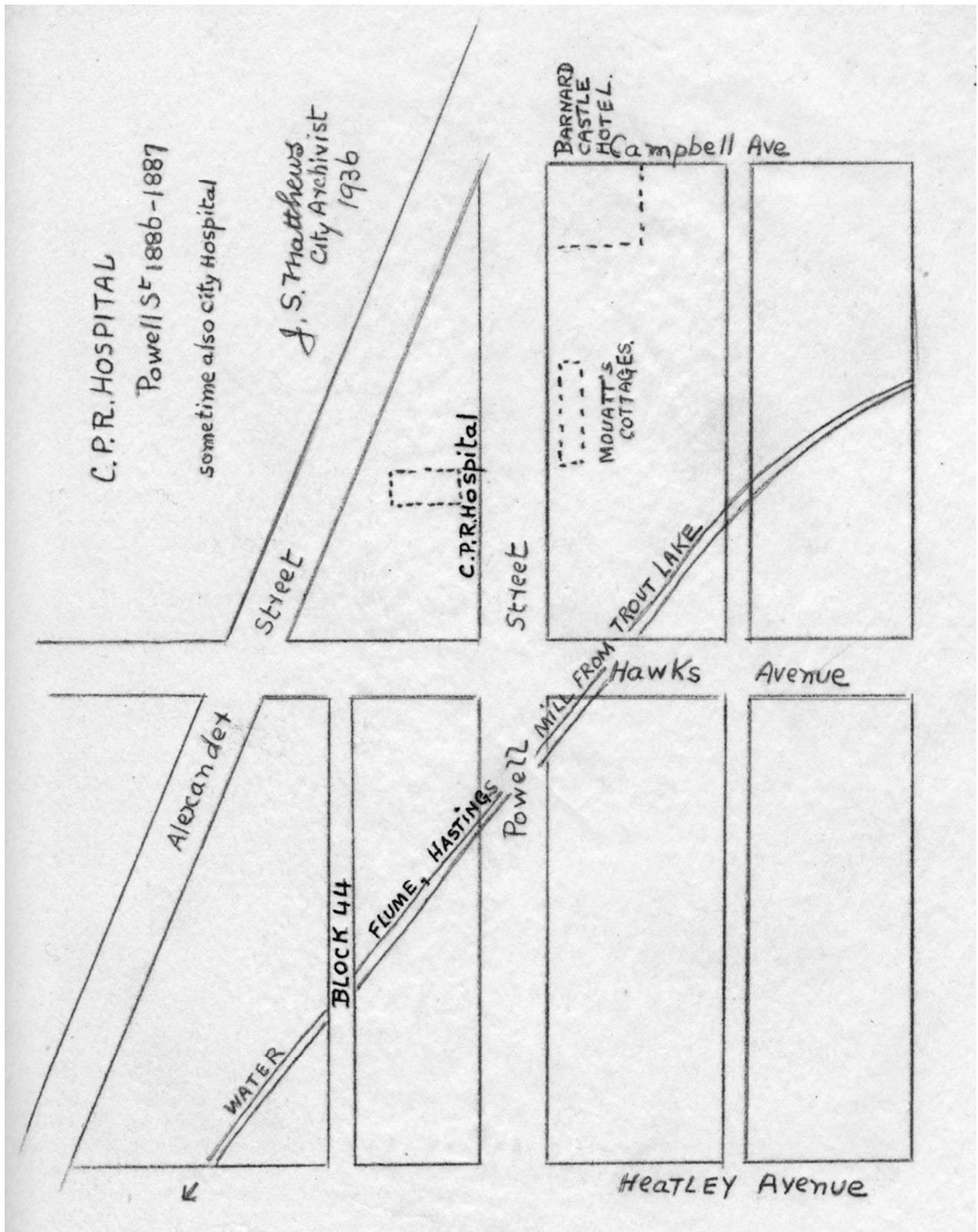


Item # EarlyVan_v4_031

April 1936, J.B. Kay comments on this, "Pretty good." J.S.M.

See W.H. Gallagher, J.B. Kay, McConnell, Dr. Langis, Dr. Robertson conversations. They are now the only five living persons who were in the C.P.R. Hospital. J.S.M.

Compare with sketch plan and conversation, J.Q. McConnell, 17 March 1936. JSM.



Item # EarlyVan_v4_032