

## 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 125<sup>th</sup> 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. 4 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

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

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Vancouver, 1886. The first clearing of the "C.P.R. Townsite", month of June, but before "The Fire," 13<sup>th</sup> June 1886, Corner Hastings & Seymour Sts. and proving that Hastings St. was opened up by the  
 Com. P.C. before "The Fire". Also showing why fire did not burn west of Regina Hotel, C.P.R. had cleared land. This projecting hump between two lower levels made favorable elevation for photography.  
 Cordova St. also appears to have been rough graded. Cleared road on right is Hastings St.  
 shack. Ship-drying sails at Hastings Mill. Tent. Two sloops. Road stake. Ham with mattock, ta king out stump. Smouldering fire. Princess Louise tree. Long handle shovel. Ash. Observe Hastings St. being grubbed, crowned, ditched; water in ditch. City Archives, B.C.

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**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. AND MRS. W.H. CHASE OF "GASTOWN," AT CITY ARCHIVES, 29 SEPTEMBER 1938.**

**DEIGHTON HOTEL. ICE.**

Mr. Chase said: "Across the front of the Deighton Hotel, looking north, was the bar; on the west side, looking over the vacant space between Miller's house and the hotel, was the dining room, long and narrow, and with a door leading to our cottage between Miller's house and the hotel, but more to the south. At the back of the dining room was the kitchen, a lean-to, and at the back of that, the ice house.

"Upstairs there was a moderate sized plain square hall; just a bare hall, with rooms leading off; nothing more; there was no running water, or anything of that sort; just jugs and basins, and a tub for a Saturday night bath."

**JONATHAN MILLER'S HOUSE. THE PROVINCIAL COURT HOUSE.**

"Miller's house had a low verandah, small and short, along the front of it, looking over the inlet. On the northeast corner was a small sitting room, with window looking over the inlet; then, in the middle, a doorway to enter, and a passage down the middle of the house, and, on the northwest corner, a little court office, just a bit of a place; the whole building was merely a cottage."

**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MR. AND MRS. W.H. CHASE, WHO CALLED WITH THEIR DAUGHTER, MRS. W.W. HATFIELD, AND THEIR NIECE, MRS. ETHEL JACKSON, CITY ARCHIVES, 28 SEPTEMBER 1938.**

**DEIGHTON HOTEL. STAGE HORNS.**

Mr. Chase said: "We took over the Deighton House in November 1885, and were burned out in June 1886.

"I don't remember very clearly about stage horns. I rather think they did blow a horn, but I have no clear recollection."

**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. J.F. CHRISTIE, 7881 HEATHER STREET, ONLY LIVING CHILD OF SIMON FRASER, OF GRANVILLE, BURRARD INLET, BROTHER OF ANGUS C. FRASER OF GRANVILLE AND JERICHO, ENGLISH BAY, 12 AUGUST 1936.**

**SIMON FRASER.**

Mrs. Christie said: "I am the youngest" (Jane C. Fraser) "of the family, and was born in the Fraser, Simon Fraser, home in that part of Gastown now known as the corner of Trounce Alley and Carrall Street" (southwest corner) "and I recall attending the old Hastings Sawmill School for a day or so only, and being permitted to sit on a long bench and watch; that was in the fall of 1886, as the school at Hastings Sawmill ceased in 1886.

"Father followed his big brother from New Brunswick to British Columbia, about 1876; Mother" (née Miss Mary McKillop) "and three children, Jack, Ellen and Grace, came with him. Father died in Vancouver in the month of March, 1904; Mother had died in May 1885, and is buried in the Masonic Cemetery, New Westminster. My brother and sisters were born in Campbelltown, New Brunswick.

"My sister Ellen, the eldest, finished schooling, under Mrs. Cordiner and Miss Agnes Deans Cameron, at the old Hastings Sawmill School; then she married J.H. Gillespie, a lumberman, and they had two sons and one daughter, the latter deceased. She died in August 1896, and is buried in the Mountain View Cemetery. Grace attended the Hastings Sawmill School also, but finished in the Oppenheimer Street school; she married J.W. Bell, government log scaler, and died, leaving a daughter, in 1896, and is buried in Nanaimo. My only brother was John" (Jack) "passed away in 1904."