

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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Rev. C.L. Thompson, whose daughter lives in Vancouver and was born in parsonage.

Rev. Joseph Hall, living at the "Parsonage" at the time of the Fire, 13 June 1886, and whose son works in Chemist shop, David Spencers Ltd.

Rev. Ebenezer Robson, 1887 to about 1890, whose son is in Customs House now, 1936, Vancouver.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. INSLEY, 9 MAY 1939.

Widow of the late John E. Insley, and mother of Frank Insley, City Accountant, City Hall, Vancouver, now resident 75 East Seventh Avenue East, who very kindly called at the City Archives this beautiful afternoon; a tall gracious lady, she must have been a "beauty" in her day.

JOHN E. INSLEY. LELAND HOTEL. CHRIST CHURCH ROTHOUSE.

Mrs. Insley said: "I see the Dean has been mentioning the City Archives in connection with the Golden Jubilee of Christ Church Cathedral, and that you are helping with a booklet on its history, so I thought I would call, and tell you I was married in the 'roothouse.'

"During this period, about 1898-1904, when Mrs. Machin was active in Christ Church choir, I used to sing in the choir.

"We came from Alderney, one of the Channel Islands, on the same ship, the *Parisian*, as Lord and Lady Stanley" (Stanley Park) "came when they came to be Governor-General" (Lord Stanley assumed office 11 June 1888); "and I was Miss Mamie Draper.

"Mr. Insley" (John E. Insley of Port Moody, and later owner of the Leland Hotel, Hastings Street) "and I were married in the 'roothouse' as we called it—the basement of Christ Church—before they built the church above it; the services were held in the 'roothouse,' by the Rev. Mr. Hobson, the first rector. Miss Evelyn Jowett was my bridesmaid, J.H. Bowman, well-known architect, and still living, was best man, and afterwards we had the wedding breakfast in Mr. Jowett's home, next door to the fire hall on Seymour Street; Chief Carlisle, he's getting old now, was at the breakfast, too.

"Mr. Insley died in the New Westminster Hospital, 25th April 1922.

"My living children are:

1. John, now in Vancouver.
2. Thelma, Mrs. Kaye, whose husband is with Union Oil Co., Vancouver.
3. Vernon, on the New Westminster Fire Department staff.
4. Frank, City Accountant, City Hall.
5. Daryl Insley, in Vancouver.

Note by J.S.M.: Mr. John Insley—they went to New Westminster before settling at Port Moody, and Capt. Insley (John's father) died and is buried there in the family plot (Masonic section). John Insley owned, at various times, hotels in Port Moody, Yale, Vancouver and New Westminster.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH CAPT. THOMAS JAMES JACKMAN AND MRS. JACKMAN, AT THE CITY ARCHIVES, CITY HALL, 11 OR 12 FEBRUARY 1936.

Mr. Jackman came to Gastown in 1883. (No relation to Jackman of Royal Engineers.) They have arrived in Vancouver within the last few days, and are staying at the Ritz Apartments, Georgia Street. Mr. Jackman is wonderfully well preserved for his years—about 74 years.

HASTINGS SAWMILL. MOODYVILLE SAWMILL.

Mr. Jackman: "I came to Gastown in 1883; born in St. John's, Newfoundland, and came west. Steamboated, towed logs, etc. for the Hastings Mill on their little tug, *Mermaid*, and for the Moodyville Sawmill on the *Etta White*; towed logs from Seymour Narrows, Cape Mudge, Campbell River."