

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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"Mrs. Boulton" (his wife) "and the three children, William Washington Boulton, Helen, and Kathleen, came with him. Mr. John Boulton lived in a big two-storey house opposite St. Luke's Home on Oppenheimer Street." (No. 330 Oppenheimer Street.)

"John Boulton's father was Washington Boulton, who married Miss Eliza Bourne at Port Stanley, Ontario" (Church of England), "and they lived at Thornvale, Ancaster County." (Hamilton, Ontario.) "No. They were not U.E.L.

"Washington Boulton had ten children; the whole story of the family is in a printed book which I will lend you; it goes back to the early eighteenth century.

"John Boulton died in 1906, I think about April 6th, at Rossland, and is buried in Mountain View.

"I don't know how the name Washington appears so frequently in the Boulton family; nearly all the men had it.

"Mrs. Washington Boulton, John's mother, Mrs. Philips and Mrs. Benwell, and W.A. Boulton, who was killed in the Great War, came to Vancouver in 1887."

F.W. BOULTON.

(Lieut.-Col.) "F.W. Boulton came to British Columbia in 1885; he was building snow sheds on the Canadian Pacific Railway, and when they were finished he came to Vancouver; when I came in 1889, he was working in the City Hall" (Water Department.)

MISS FRANCES ANNE BOULTON.

"I came out to Vancouver in 1889, stayed two months on a visit, went back to Toronto, then came out again in 1893, and stayed for good."

GEORGE BLACK'S. HASTINGS, BURRARD INLET. CEDAR COTTAGE. HASTINGS ROAD.

"Picnic; we all went to George Black's for picnics; there was a great big field there. Everyone went there, for the cricket matches and athletics, used to drive down the old Hastings Road, with the trees folded over above so as to conceal the sky. I recall Cedar Cottage; Mr. Thynne of Thynne and Wilson had a market garden there, and we drove right through the woods to reach it. Mr. Walker sold it about two years ago."

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. RUBY M. BOWER, 1915 HARO STREET, 26 AUGUST 1936.

Daughter of Benjamin Springer, manager, Moodyville Sawmill, and Mrs. Springer, previously Mrs. Richards, second teacher at the Hastings Sawmill School.

MRS. MARY CAPILANO.

"'Old Mary' thinks she is 104, but I don't think she can be; I think she must be about 88 or 90. She used to wash for us, and she was a comparatively young woman then; I was born in 1882. I had not seen her for years. I was over at Capilano at a party, and recognised the face; she has not changed much. I talked to her, and she told me she was selling baskets in the 'West End' to make some money; she remembered doing our laundry; I don't think she is even 100."

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH MRS. RUBY M. BOWER, NÉE SPRINGER, AT THE VANCOUVER PIONEER ASSOCIATION PICNIC (S.S. PRINCESS JOAN) TO NEWCASTLE ISLAND, 14 JUNE 1939.

FIRST PIANO ON BURRARD INLET. MRS. BEN SPRINGER, MOODYVILLE. MRS. RICHARDS, SCHOOL TEACHER. MRS. GEORGE A. WALKEM.

Mrs. Bower said: "My mother had the first piano on Burrard Inlet, and I am told that Mrs. George Walkem has it now, a little black thing, just a little thing, black, and said to be ebony, but I don't know if it is ebony or not." (Not the Walkem piano.)

Major Matthews: Did your mother (formerly Mrs. Richards, school teacher, of Hastings Sawmill School, who afterwards married Benjamin Springer, manager, Moodyville Sawmill Co.) buy it

from Capt. and Mrs. Schwappe, master of the Barque *Whittier*, part of the cabin furniture, a ship's small piano? (See Crakanthorp narrative, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 3.) We have photographs of Capt. and Mrs. Schwappe in the City Archives. (Photo No. P. Port. 118, N. Port. 137.)

FIRST TENNIS COURT? BENJAMIN SPRINGER DIARY.

Mrs. Bower: "I don't know, but I do know that Mother had the first tennis court on Burrard Inlet, over at Moodyville, beside the 'Big House,' our house; Mother had it made."

Major Matthews: Do you know that we have just received the minute books of the "New Westminster and Yale Pilotage Authority," 1879, which became the Vancouver Pilotage Authority, lasted until 1919, and was the beginning of the Vancouver Harbour Board, now the National Harbours Boards. It is full of your father's signatures.

Mrs. Bower: "I have Father's diary; it is written, and in good order."

Re: tennis lawn at Moodyville, see photo P.Bu.2 and P.Out.209.

HASTINGS MILL SCHOOL. BEN SPRINGER OF MOODYVILLE. THE SECOND SCHOOL TEACHER (MRS. SPRINGER.)

Mrs. Ruby M. Bower is a daughter of the second school teacher at the Hastings Sawmill School. Her mother was (Mrs. Richards afterwards) Mrs. Ben Springer (manager of the Moodyville Sawmill's wife.) See Crakanthorp in *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 3, about her purchasing the first piano in Vancouver from the master of a sailing ship at the Hastings Mill.

MRS. PATTERSON.

Of Mrs. John Peabody Patterson, the "Heroine of Moodyville," first nurse (practical) on Burrard Inlet (before hospitals and doctors), 1873, Mrs. Bower said: "I recall her; she was a good woman; she brought all we children into the world."

[LETTER FROM J.H. BOWMAN.]

May 25, 1937,
4676-5th West,
Vancouver, B.C.

J.S. Matthews, Esq.,
City Archivist,
City Hall.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your favor of the 19th inst. in reference to the opening of our Stanley Park, Oct. 1889 by the then Gov. General Lord Stanley and in furtherance of your conversation with Mr. Baynes one of our well and favorably known Park Commissioners. I may say yes I can tell you about the arch built at this end of the causeway entrance to Stanley Park just to the right of Georgia Street, but as for the stone cairn, I have no recollection of this or have I ever heard if there was such a things.

In reference to the arch of which I am enclosing a sketch from memory and also of which I have seen a picture in a book that I think belongs to friend Baynes.

The arch was designed by a very young architect, at this time, by the name of Eveleigh, who like myself has now grown much older and is now the Secretary of our Architectural Institute and who I think would be able to give you some more information in this same regard.

J.W. Horne was the city councillor who appeared to be a committee in charge of the work, Mr. Charles Hilliar, the contractor, and the writer of this, a young leading hand, with Will Horrie and Ed Baynes his helpers. Since when the well known building firm of Baynes & Horrie. Our work consisted of erecting this a memorial arch with the name Stanley Park subscribed