

Early Vancouver

Volume Four

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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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STANLEY PARK. PROPOSED FORT. HOMULCHESON.

Major Matthews: What about this proposed fort in Stanley Park; it looks as though they proposed to build a fort on the First Narrows, like the old Bastion in Nanaimo.

August Jack: "Well, it was never built; the only fort on the Narrows was the Indian fort at Homulcheson" (Capilano River.)

CAPT. VANCOUVER. SPANISH EXPLORERS. INDIAN IMPLEMENTS.

Major Matthews: Wait. I want to read to you from Tom MacInnes' radio address No. 21. He quotes from Chapter 7, Spanish "Sut-il-Mexicana" record what the Spaniards say about the Indians at Musqueam and Jericho. "From the southwest side of Point Langara, seven canoes came out and made their way toward the schooners ... They were clearly provided with many excellent weapons, such as spears with iron points half a yard long; sheafs of arrows with points of the same metal."

August Jack: "Well, there must have been other schooners in before that. Where did they get those iron spears?"

CHINALSET. "JERICHO CHARLIE."

"I remember my stepfather Chinalset" ("Jericho Charlie") "say that when the whiteman came to Whalwahlayten, that's Watt's Point, Howe Sound, that the whitemen gave them some barrel hoops, and that's how, I think, they make spears out of iron."

STANLEY PARK. CHAYTHOOS. CATTLE. HORSES. PIGS.

Major Matthews: What about your home at Chaythoos and cows?

August Jack: "My father, Supplejack, bought a cow and a horse in New Westminster, then a calf came, and we had a bull, and after that we had twelve cows, a bull, twelve pigs, and two horses, and one was a race horse; Supplejack and George Black used to race their horses. The horses always used to have a big time on Queen's Day; race in Victoria, Westminster; Supplejack, my father, make lots of money winning race.

"When we live at Chaythoos" (end of Pipe Line Road on First Narrows) "before the road around the park came and cut the corner off our house, we kept the horses and the cows in the stable at Chaythoos, and when we wanted to ride to town there was a trail, and we had to ride right around the head of what is now Lost Lagoon, around by Second Beach; there was no bridge; there was a trail through the forest from Chaythoos to Gastown."

MILK.

"The cows, at night, were put in the stable; in the day they ran loose in the park, or along the beach; they got wild grass mostly—along the beach—but there was some English grass, not much, some, enough to carry us over the winter, and if there was not enough, Father bought hay from Black's and Maxie's. Mother" (Qhwy-wat) "milked the six cows in the morning—the other six were dry—and put the milk in big high milk cans—about five gallons—and took it to Hastings Mill in the canoe. Agnes milked the cows in the evening when Mother was away, and next day it went with the morning's milk to Hastings Mill. Mother took the milk every morning, but I don't know how much she got for it. Louisa, my sister, made the butter."

Major Matthews: Did you sell any cattle to the butcher?

August Jack: "Yes, to the logging camp; dead, not alive. Father used to shoot the steers, then butcher them, and send them to the logging camps."

Major Matthews: What about pigs?

August Jack: "The same; kill them and sell the meat, or salt them down and make corned pork."

Major Matthews: Any sheep or hens?

August Jack: "No sheep; had enough trouble with cows and horses, and we did not have chickens until we moved to Jericho, and then we had lots. But none at Chaythoos."