

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

By: Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1936-1945.

Supplemental to volumes one, two, three and four collected in 1931, 1932 and 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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Contact Information

City of Vancouver Archives
1150 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J9
604.736.8561
archives@vancouver.ca
vancouver.ca/archives



Dr. Langis: "Nothing. There was no service that Sunday, that was all.

"Father Pat came to me one day, I saw him coming; it was in the 'Arcade,' corner of Hastings and Cambie, and I said to myself when I saw him coming, 'This is going to cost me one dollar.' He said to me, 'Your brother wrote to me in 1888 and I never answered.' I had a brother who was a priest, and he wanted to know how I (Dr. Langis) was behaving myself in B.C. But the reason he (Father Fay) did not answer was because he was too busy with the bottle, so I wrote to my brother myself, and told him how I was getting along.

"Father Fay was a very likeable man."

Dr. Langis died in 1937.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH DR. H.E. LANGIS, 23 MARCH 1937.

Pioneer medical practitioner of Fort William, Yale, Port Moody, New Westminster, Granville and Vancouver, charming old French-Canadian, who, always kindly, called at the City Archives to ask that some of his "yarns" be sent to the B.C. Medical Association for printing in their monthly *Bulletin* as he was unable to do it himself.

DR. H.E. LANGIS.

Dr. Langis said: "It will be fifty years ago in a few days, on March 31st 1887, since I got a license to practice in British Columbia; got a provincial license, paid ten dollars for it."

EARLY CEMETERIES. BROCKTON POINT.

"Yes, I know, I know exactly where the old Brockton Point graveyard was; I could put my foot on the exact spot. They were mostly people from Moodyville who were buried there—and a few from Hastings Sawmill. The graves were to the right of the road as you go to the point; outside the road, east of the road; between the road and water; the old 'Park Road' was narrow, not a wide driveway as it is now; left more land between road and top of bank. The graves were about the Nine O'Clock Gun; north and south of it, close to it, some just beyond, some this side, just a few yards from the gun, or where the gun is now.

"And some were along between the gun and Brockton Point, but outside of the park road.

"Some were over on Deadman's Island; that's where I got my skeleton they talked about in the Great Fire of 1886; a Swede who had committed suicide at Moodyville. The little graves on Deadman's Island had little fences around them; painted white pickets."

J.S. Matthews

GOLDEN JUBILEE, 1936.

Jack Booth, *Province* cartoonist, "Would jubileevit."

LAWN TENNIS.

Memo of conversation with A.P. Horne, Esq. (over phone), 21 August 1939.

Mr. Horne: "The wooden tennis courts shown in" (C.P.R. Park) "front of old Hotel Vancouver, were built in 1889 and 1890. The first one was built in 1889, and the second in 1890, E.B. Dean was secretary at the time, and looked after the financing. But, previous to 1895, the tennis was played at Brockton Point."

Note: after 1898, but before 1901, I have leaned on the fence on Granville Street and watched tennis being played on the old court. V.C. Brimacombe, of the Bank of Montréal, played there.

J.S. Matthews.