

**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 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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John Murray says "First photo, Port Moody, winter, 1883." Photo by John Uren, New Westminster. First locomotive "Lytton" landed Oct. 18, 1883. See "Early Vancouver," Vol. 3.

PORT MOODY, 1883. 1 Fraser Bros. hall; 2 Lamont's Restaurant; 3  
 5 Queen St. Crossing; 6 Creek and trestle; 7 C.P.R. Bldg.; 8 Clarke's boundary; 9 Elgin House;  
 10 Tay's store, jail behind; 11 D.B. Grant's (1st P.O.); 12 Caledonia Hotel; 13 Eckstein's; 14 Cal.  
 Hotel Stable; 15 Jn. Murray, butcher; 16 Chinese shacks; 17 Ry Wharf; 18 Station; 19 Float Ice.

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[photo annotations:]

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**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH JOHN MURRAY, PORT MOODY, SON OF MURRAY, ROYAL ENGINEER, AT CITY ARCHIVES, CITY HALL, VANCOUVER, 8 MAY 1936.**

Mr. Murray is preparing a list of pioneers who lived in Port Moody before the arrival of the first train, for the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the arrival of that train, 4 July 1886.

**ARRIVAL, FIRST TRAIN. PORT MOODY, 1886.**

Mr. Murray said: "The old first C.P.R. station, Port Moody" (see photo No. P. Out. 28, No. Out. 27) "is still standing, slightly altered, and is used as an office laboratory for the oil company.

"You will notice in this photograph" (see photo No. P. Can. 4, N. Can. 1) "a shed with split shingle roof, behind the spark catcher smoke stack of engine 371. That old shed was about fifty feet west of the C.P.R. station, and was built by Onderdonk to store his junk after the road was finished; knives, forks, spoons, plows, chains, shovels and coffee pots; it was about fifty feet to the east of the C.P.R. station."

**WILLIAM VAN HORNE. SIR JOHN AND LADY MACDONALD. FIRST PASSENGER TRAIN, 4 JULY 1886.**

"I recollect Van Horne's visit. He was certainly not at Port Moody between the time we started the survey for the city of Port Moody in 1882, because from March 1883 to September 1883 I lived on the wharf at the terminus, and I was there all the time until November 1886—excepting on one occasion when I saw him on the terminus wharf in a bowler hat. Sir John and Lady Macdonald came through before the first passenger train; that is all on record, because Lady Macdonald rode in a chair in front of the engine. Mayor MacLean of Vancouver was up, and presented an address, and I remember what Sir John said, which was, 'We have completed the railway from the Atlantic to the Pacific; now it is up to you to do the rest.'

"The passenger train came in on Sunday about 12:30 noon."

**SURVEY OF PORT MOODY.**

"There are living today three men who actually took part in the survey, that is, worked on the survey party which laid out the terminal city of the C.P.R., Port Moody, in 1882. They are Hugh and William, my brothers, and myself. We all worked together as I have told you before on the survey of the Clarke and Murray estate."

**MURRAY FAMILY.**

"John Murray, my father, Royal Engineer, was born of Scotch parentage at Laughlin Bridge, Co. Carlo, Dublin, in 18—, and he died the day before his 72<sup>nd</sup> birthday, and is buried in the Masonic Cemetery at New Westminster. Hugh, now living, was born in Southampton about 1856; I, John, was born on the *Thames City* at sea, 14 March 1859. William was born at Sapperton in 1866; then comes one who died; the youngest is Mrs. Ems, now living at Point Grey."

**DEIGHTON HOUSE. GRANVILLE.**

"I boarded at the Deighton House, and slept in George Black's butcher shop across the street in the summer of 1875. Of course, I was here before that. I came again on November 28<sup>th</sup> 1876, and stayed here until Christmas. Then came back on the 12<sup>th</sup> April 1877, and stayed until 13<sup>th</sup> July 1880."

**PORT MOODY WHARF. FIRST POSTMASTER. FIRST MAGISTRATE.**

"Mrs. Mutrie" (of Mutrie and Brown) "whose father had the subcontract to plank the wharf, and who had a boarding house, went to live at Port Moody in September 1882, and she was there when the first ship with steel rails, *Duke of Abercorn*, arrived. Mrs. H. Mutrie now lives at 1105 Haro Street, Sey. 5997X.

"D.B. Grant, the first postmaster, also survives; he sold out in '86. The first magistrate, John Taylor, is stopping at the St. Francis hotel."