

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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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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Item # EarlyVan_v5_034

[photo annotation:]

Hastings Sawmill. 722 LOOKING ACROSS BURRARD INLET FROM VANCOUVER B.C.
May-June, 1890 Bailey Bros.

- 1 Mill Store, new addition, circa 1888
- 2 Mill Store, old, 2nd, now Alma Rd.
- 3 Sidewalk above beach, a stump
- 4 School house (demolished) site
- 5 Two women with baby carriages
- 6 Mill road to Gastown-Hastings Road
- 7 R.H. Alexander, P. Cordiner
- 8 Can. Pac. Ry. single track main line
- 9 B.I. & N.W. Telephone pole
- 10 Can. Pac. Telegraph pole.
- 11 Pile driver
- 12 Lumber for export
- 13 Barque
- 14 Cookhouse bell in cupola
- 15 Cook & Messhouse
- 16 Lean-to on cookhouse
- 17 Big stump
- 18 Woodshed & school closet
- 19 Dr. Walkem. Mahony, Simson
- 20 Stove Pipe. Stump
- 21 J.P. Patterson, built 1873 also Riddleys and McCartney
- 22 Office (2nd)
- 23 Old First Store, hall upstairs, later warehouse
- 24 Old dressed lumber shed
- 25 *[blank]*
- 26 Road to mill
- 27 Can Pac Ry telegraph pole
- 28 Caulfield's cottage, board & batten
- 29 Stovepipe, through wall
- 30 First office & Capt. Nelson's cottage
- 31 Lumber pile
- 32 Tug at mill dock

33 New shed
34 Adolph Nelson's cottage, planerman
35 Bachelor's shacks and
36 Fire engine
37 Mechanics' Institute & Library
38 Tom Hunter's cottage, mill foreman
39 Can Pac Ry box car, high fence
40 Cottage where Harold Ridley born 1875
40A Stump
41 Cottage
42 Engine room & machine shop
43 Can Pac Ry signal post
44 Burners' Hall, dances, smoking
45 Boilers
46 Fence to stop pilfering, etc.
47 Granville -Hastings Road
48 Creek and duck pond & spillway
49 Can Pac Ry fence, and cattle pen
50 Stump
51 Open water tanks, Trout Lake flume
52 Log haul from log boom
53 Scow
54 "The Mission" & Indian Church
55 Tom Turner's early shack
56 now Lonsdale Ave
57 Wharf shed roof (addition)
58 [blank]
59 [blank]
60 [blank]
City Archives
1934
J.S.M.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH CALVERT SIMSON, BARCLAY STREET, FORMER POSTMASTER, HASTINGS SAWMILL, 29 APRIL 1936.

FIRST CIVIC ELECTION.

“John McDowell was telling me that he came to Vancouver the day of the election, and they wanted him to vote, but he said he had only just arrived. So they took him up to Pat Carey’s” (Brunswick Hotel, Hastings Street) “and wanted to give him a receipt for rent of his room, and date it back, so that he could vote, but John said, ‘No,’ and wouldn’t stand for it, and he didn’t vote.”

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH R.C. HODGSON, WHO WAS A BOY AT THE TIME OF THE FIRST CIVIC ELECTION; HERE WITH HIS FATHER.

FIRST CIVIC ELECTION.

“It was the most enthusiastic election I have ever seen in Vancouver.”

J.S. Matthews.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH CALVERT SIMSON, FORMERLY STOREKEEPER, HASTINGS SAWMILL, WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A FLEETING CALL (WHILST THE BOAT WAS AT DOCK) AT IRVING’S LANDING, PENDER HARBOUR, 31 JULY 1936.

“PORTUGUESE JOE.” JOSEPH SILVEY. GREGORIS FERNANDEZ.

Mr. Simson said: “I had fifteen minutes only with Joseph Gonsalves just while the boat was stopped, and he was busy, selling ice cream to tourists, etc., on the 26th. He tells me that Gregoris Fernandez of Gastown was his uncle, and owned Lot 16 in Block 6, O.G.T.” (northwest corner, Water and Abbott) “as well as Lot 1 in Block 5” (southwest corner, Water and Abbott) “and had a store on the bank on Lot 16 with a slip down to the inlet, but had a storehouse and kept chickens on Lot 1.

“According to Joe” (Gonsalves), “whom I knew quite well when he was in Gastown and I was storekeeper at the mill, Gregoris Fernandez was a Cariboo miner who came to Gastown and bought these lots; he never did any fishing.” (See Street Ends Case, evidence, Appeal Court, January 1905.) “He took ill and died, and Henry Saunders, grocery and liquor merchant, Victoria, wound up his debts.

“Joseph Silvey was a fisherman; Gregoris Fernandez was never a fisherman.”

JOSEPH GONSALVES. GASTOWN.

“Joseph Gonsalves, long known to me as ‘Portuguese Joe’” (note: this makes three “Portuguese Joes”), “says he came to Gastown in July 1874, and he remembers that the wreck on the beach beside the Hastings Mill wharf, and in front of the store, was there when he came.” (Lawson photograph.) (Note: Mrs. Crakanthorp states it was there when she came in April 1873.) “Joe tells me that ‘The Deighton House came first; then Miller’s, then an American named Billy Jones, then Bill Blair’s, and at the very end, John Robertson’s ‘Hole in the Wall’ saloon.”

JOSEPH MANNION.

(Note: Billy Jones appears as on the same property as Joseph Mannion’s “Granville Hotel.”)

“NAVY JACK.” JOHN THOMAS.

See “Dissolution of Partnership” between William Jones and John Thomas (“Navy Jack”), and “Partnership Notice” between William Jones and Joseph Mannion, published in *Mainland Guardian*, 5 April 1873.