

**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**

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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



Read and approved by Mr. Miller. November 1937.

J.S. Matthews.

### **SAM GREER OF GREER'S BEACH.**

Memo of conversation with Mrs. G.E. Morrison, 3321 Point Grey Road, who is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Greer, 21 January 1936.

### **KITSILANO BEACH.**

Mrs. Greer (Louisa, the second wife) is 87 now, getting somewhat feeble. She lives on Trafalgar Street. "Yes, I am her daughter, was born 9<sup>th</sup> February 1887, right there at the foot of Yew Street, where the bathing pavilion is now. Mrs. J.Z. Hall" (who received the "Good Citizen" medal in 1934 from the Native Sons at a big ceremony in Stanley Park, Malkin Memorial Bowl) "is my half sister."

### **WILD ANIMALS.**

"Do I remember the wild animals? Mink and weasels used to come right in the house." (The house the C.P.R. burned down.) "Then there were some little things which scrambled over the roof at night; we never did find out what they were."

### **FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN KITSILANO.**

Mrs. Morrison was born, February 1885 (or 1886) in father's house on beach, foot Yew Street.

Probably earliest white birth in Kitsilano; her younger sister, Mrs. Middlemas of Trafalgar Street, also born there, 26 May 1889; younger children were born at Chilliwack.

J.S.M.

### **MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN MR. AND MRS. J.W. MORRISON, 1749 WATERLOO STREET, VANCOUVER, WHO HAVE BEEN IN VANCOUVER FOR 50 YEARS, AT THEIR HOME, 25 MARCH 1938.**

Asked to identify his store and others on Cordova Street, from a photograph showing soldiers marching "in line" down Cordova Street, between Homer and Cambie, before 1899, Mr. Morrison said that the photograph did not quite include the building in which his store was located. (See photo No. P. Mil. 23. G. N. 462.)

Mr. Morrison said: "I think my store was the first brick one in the block. It was near the southwest corner of Cambie on Cordova. When I moved into it, it was a new building, and I was so busy trying to establish myself in my new business, that I did not pay much attention to the others."

### **MASONIC TEMPLE. ODDFELLOWS HALL. SPRINGER BLOCK.**

"I remember the Springer Block across Cordova Street being built; it was under construction when I moved into my little store. As far as memory serves me, this first little store in the picture is Tapley's Candy store; they made their own candy, and had some confectionary goods, too."

### **POODLE DOG HOTEL.**

"The next one, I think, was a hotel, but I cannot remember the name of it. And then there was the Merchant Tailors; I think Mr. Mather, who later went to Pasadena, was the tailor then."

### **ARKELL HALL. GRANT AND ARKELL. WORLD NEWSPAPER. KENDALL BLOCK.**

"Next to that is the Arkell building; it was not Grant and Arkell then, only Arkell, and later, I think it was the *World* office, the newspaper. And then there is the Kendall Block, that is on the corner of Homer and Cordova.

"I joined the Masonic Lodge, but when I joined they were holding their meetings in the Springer Block, and I do not remember when they were held in the Arkell Building."

Unrevised conversation with Miss Ethel Glazier, City Archives.