

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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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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SOUTH VANCOUVER POLICE. POINT GREY. VOSPER.

“The first policeman in South Vancouver was Vosper; he’s dead years and years ago. Then came Jimmy Adjutant, and then Bill Daniels, down on the River Road, you know, in 1905, and I was next in 1906, and stayed until 1923. We were all the only policemen, at the time we served, in South Vancouver.

“At that time, one policeman did duty from the tip of Point Grey to Boundary Road, Burnaby, and he had to attend to everything; collect road tax; no dog tax, no pound, but you were everything. When we wanted to go anywhere very far, say, Point Grey, I had my own horse and I rode there; there were no prisoners; if I found a man doing wrong, I gave him ‘cain’; it did him more good than putting him in court. I had only one case in 1906, that’s a fact, and that fellow skipped. He was ‘Red’ Morrison, drove team for T.G. McBride on Westminster Avenue, and I’ll tell you how I got him. It was a Sunday and he had a couple of fancy ponies, piebald, circus horses, and he was driving on the old Westminster Road to New Westminster; it was near Earls Road; all bush along there then; he might have been under the ‘influence,’ but he was ‘cutting’ the horses unmercifully with a whip.

“I summoned him before Harry Alexander” (H.O. Alexander), “magistrate at Vancouver—we had no magistrate in South Vancouver—but he perjured himself, and Harry sent him up for trial, so while he was out on bail for two thousand, he skipped to San Francisco, and the bail was paid, but I never found out who paid it.

“Of course, out in South Vancouver then, there was no street lights, no sidewalks, no phone, nothing except we used to get the morning paper, the *News-Advertiser*.”

GLADSTONE INN. MOUNTAIN VIEW CEMETERY. SHERDAHL. SWAN. SCHWAN.

“Mrs. Morris ran the Gladstone for quite a few years; she was the owner. Her husband was up in the Klondike. She sold to Dorfman, and Dorfman sold to Curry. Poor old McDonald of the cemetery; he was caretaker. At first he lived in the little cemetery cottage on the corner of Bodwell Road and the North Arm Road; had a little pigsty at the back. You remember the Swan Bros.; one of them married the Sherdahl girls; two of them married the Sherdahl girls; well, August Swan” (or Schwan), “he had a hog ranch out there at 38th and Inverness; he used to go out there for a week and sober up.

“There was only an old house or so in that distract at that time.”

EARLS ROAD. WALES ROAD.

“Earls Road; that was named after old Harry Earl; Wales Road was named after Mr. Wales, the oldest settler out there; he had about twenty acres.”

(Unrevised. J.S.M.)

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH THOMAS WINTERS, 5429 RHODES STREET, IN WHOSE HONOUR WINTER STREET IS NAMED, AT CITY ARCHIVES, 27 JANUARY 1938.

GENEALOGY.

Mr. Winters said: “I was born in Co. Letham” (Letrim), “Ireland, 23rd November 1863, and went to the Mohill school at the village of Mohill. I enlisted in the 88th Connaught Rangers, 6th January 1882, and in March 1882, my elder brother claimed me to the 1st Battalion, Royal Irish Fusiliers, stationed at Aldershot. In 1883 I went to India with the regiment, stayed there until 1889, then I went home, time expired, took discharge, stayed a couple of weeks, and just came out to Canada for no particular reason; adventure, perhaps; came all by myself; got off at Montréal, stayed six months, then went all over the United States until 1898, then left for Finland, and came to Vancouver, 10th February 1899.

“In 1895, at San Francisco, I married Miss Katherine Nauska—church of England—and we had six children. Mrs. Winters died 9th February 1913, aged about 38, I think; died in Los Angeles, California; cancer; and is buried in Mountain View Cemetery.

“Our children were, in order of age: