

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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"All the good timber, magnificent trees, was in the West End, out Shaughnessy way, and there was a good patch down about George Black's" (Hastings.) "It was fine timber; nothing better in the world. But no man on earth can tell how long it was since some big fire ran through all that area east of the head of False Creek; might be two or three hundred years ago."

HOLLOW TREES.

"Do you know how those big hollow trees start? There's a famous one out in Stanley Park, and another in Central Park. Why, I have seen trees three or four feet thick growing straddled over a dead log. The wind blew over the trees killed by fire; then the log all rotted out, and got covered with moss and rotten stuff, and a seed fell on top of the log and took root, and of course the tiny roots couldn't go down in the wood, so they straddle each side of the old long, like a prong; that was how the big hollow tree in Stanley Park got started, and that might have been before the birth of our Saviour."

(See photos—C.V. P. Tr. 7, N. Tr. 9, and C.V. P. St. 11, G. N. 104.)

"CUT" NAILS.

"Cut" nails were used in all the early buildings of Vancouver. Just when wire drawn nails superseded them is hard to say, but when the St. Andrew's Church, corner Richards and Georgia streets, was pulled down in July 1937, both kinds were found, although the preponderant number were "cut."

"Cut" nails had the disadvantage of being a little brittle; they broke instead of bending as a wire drawn nail bends. Samples of some are in the City Archives. It is stated that after boiling them in tallow, pioneers used them, with quite good success, for boat building.

At first "cut" nails were cast iron, but afterwards they were made malleable.

They were sold as "penny" nails.

1"	two, or tuppenny
1¼	three penny
1½	four penny
1¾	five penny
2"	six penny
2¼	seven penny
2½	eight penny
2¾	nine penny
3"	ten penny
3¼	twelve penny
3½	sixteen penny
4"	twenty penny
4½	thirty penny
5"	forty penny
5½	fifty penny
6"	sixty penny

THE NAMING OF VANCOUVER.

Note: W.E. McCartney, son of A.E. McCartney, of McCartney Creek, North Vancouver, pioneer of Granville, Burrard Inlet, asserts that claims to have been the "first (or second or third) child born in Vancouver" do not take into consideration that Vancouver was "*Vancouver*" weeks and months before the mere approval of a name, already in common use, changed "Granville" into the incorporated "City of Vancouver."

JSM

The earliest appearance we have seen of the name "Vancouver" is in the magazine *West Shore*, published in Portland, Oregon, September 1884, Vol. 10, No. 9, page 304, which says: "investigate the merits of Vancouver on Coal Harbor," etc.

Robertson and Co., Victoria, through their real estate agents, "F.C. Innes & Co., agents," on Carrall Street, sold Lot 9, Block 2, D.L. 196 for \$550 to James Pigott of *Granville* on 27 October 1885, but Henry Mutrie of Port Moody leased Lot 11, Block 2, D.L. 196 (almost adjoining) on 15 December 1885 to J.M.F. Stiles of the "City of Vancouver." Both lots are on Oppenheimer Street near Columbia (or Powell.) (See Graveley papers.)

The *Vancouver Weekly Herald* commenced publication on 15 January 1886, and shows many firms had then adopted the name Vancouver as part of their trade name; as witness:

Vancouver Livery.
Vancouver Market.
Vancouver Transfer Co.
Vancouver Truck and Dray Co.
Vancouver Real Estate, Rand Bros.
Vancouver ... S.T. Tilley, books.
Vancouver ... Granville Livery.
Vancouver ... Granville Market.
Vancouver ... T.B. Spring, contractor.
Vancouver ... Terminal City Land Office.
Vancouver City ... James Hartney, grocer.
Vancouver City ... A.W. Sullivan, dry goods.

The school report, 8 February 1886, is dated "Vancouver."

On 6 March 1886, the C.P.R. issued a printed receipt for deposit of money made by Walter E. Graveley on a lot of land, and the paper is printed as "Vancouver."

J.S. Matthews.

Vancouver was incorporated 6 April 1886.

EXCERPT, GENEALOGY, ETC.

His Worship Thos. F. Neelands, Mayor of Vancouver, 1902-1903.

VANCOUVER GENERAL HOSPITAL (FAIRVIEW).

In 1897 was elected Alderman for Ward Two, continuing in that capacity for four years.

In 1901, in conjunction with the late ex-Alderman Robert Grant, selected his site for the Vancouver General Hospital, and after the incorporation of that institution was one of the first directors and Life Governors.

In 1902 was elected Mayor of the City and in 1903 was re-elected to that office by acclamation.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH HIS WORSHIP, EX-MAYOR T.F. NEELANDS, MAYOR OF VANCOUVER, 1902 AND 1903, 5 MAY 1936.

FIRST WHITE CHILD BORN IN VANCOUVER, 31 MAY 1886. HIS WORSHIP MAYOR T.F. NEELANDS.

(Note: records compiled in 1932 in connection with "the last four hundred" show that Margaret Macey arrived in Granville, 1 March 1886, and Alice Macey on 1 April 1886. JSM.)

His Worship Mr. Neelands said: "I was here before incorporation, and voted at the first election of mayor and aldermen, 3 May 1886. Mrs. Neelands, my wife, was Miss Nellie, sister to Samuel T. Macey, and still survives."

FREDERICK CHARLES MACEY.

"At the time of the Great Fire, June 13th 1886, Samuel Macey and his wife lived on the north side of Hastings Street between Columbia Street and what was afterwards Westminster, now Main Street. There, their eldest son was born, Frederick Charles Macey, now living in Point Grey; I remember his birth very