

## **Early Vancouver**

### **Volume Six**

**By: Major J.S. Matthews, V.D.**

**2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)**

*Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1940-1945.*

*Supplemental to volumes one, two, three, four and five collected in 1931, 1932, 1934, 1939 and 1944.*

### **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.

### **Copyright Statement**

© 2011 City of Vancouver. Any or all of *Early Vancouver* may be used without restriction as to the nature or purpose of the use, even if that use is for commercial purposes. You may copy, distribute, adapt and transmit the work. It is required that a link or attribution be made to the City of Vancouver.

### **Reproductions**

High resolution versions of any graphic items in *Early Vancouver* are available. A fee may apply.

### **Citing Information**

When referencing the 2011 edition of *Early Vancouver*, please cite the page number that appears at the bottom of the page in the PDF version only, not the page number indicated by your PDF reader. Here are samples of how to cite this source:

Footnote or Endnote Reference:

Major James Skitt Matthews, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 6 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 6. Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011.

### **Contact Information**

City of Vancouver Archives  
1150 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6J 3J9  
604.736.8561  
archives@vancouver.ca  
vancouver.ca/archives



**MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH JOHN ELLIOTT, PIONEER OF FAIRVIEW, WHOSE SISTER WAS THE FIRST BABY BORN IN FAIRVIEW, NOW OF APPEAL BOARD, TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION, 11 JULY 1940.**

**FIRST FAIRVIEW SCHOOL. EIGHTH AVENUE WEST. FAIRVIEW.**

Mr. Elliott said: "I was the barefoot boy; just me, who took a petition around to all the scattered houses of Fairview right from Cambie Street west to the limit of civilisation—and that wasn't much west of Granville Street either—asking that a school be established in Fairview.

"The first little school was about 25' x 50', two-storey, stove and cordwood, of course, on the lane corner of Eighth Avenue, west of Granville Street a few yards" (see Goad's Map, folio 50, Lt. 25, Blk. 331, D.L. 526, 1901) "and was built by a man named Matheson. The principal, he was the sole teacher, too, for a couple of terms, was G.W. McRae; then Miss Ethel LePage came; relation of LePage, the glue man; I think her name is Mrs. Wheeler now; not sure.

"It was also the first Sunday school, Rev. E.D. McLaren started it; it was a mission of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and the Sunday school superintendent was Mr. McCuaig, the auctioneer. Afterwards it was a carpenter's shop; torn down now, long ago."

**EDMONDS. FRASER RIVER. WEATHER ZERO. SLEIGHING.**

"The coldest weather Vancouver ever had was in February 1893, about the 18<sup>th</sup> I think; it was six below in Vancouver, at twelve below at the water tower at the power station on the Westminster-Vancouver interurban, just by the Municipal Hall, Edmonds, now.

"And all that month of February 1893, there was sleighing for teams on the Fraser River at Westminster; I saw it."