

Early Vancouver

Volume Seven

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2011 Edition (Originally Published 1956)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected between 1931-1956.

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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SUPPLEJACK'S MAUSOLEUM, STANLEY PARK AT CHAYTHOOS, FIRST NARROWS.

Conversation with August Jack Khahtsahlano, son of Khaytulk, or "Supplejack," and grandson of Chief Khahtsahlanogh (Kitsilano), following the complimentary banquet given to the Avison family by the Parks Board, when "Avison Trail" was so named in honour of the first Park Ranger, John Avison. At this banquet, Frank Harris, who has lived in the Water Works Cottage since 1889, and still lives there, had said in his speech that he knew where Supplejack's grave (or mausoleum) had stood, exactly. As Major Matthews was skeptical he wrote August asking him to come over from the Indian Reserve, Lower Capilano. August came, Monday, 8 December 1947.

SUPPLEJACK'S GRAVE. KHAY-TULK. CHAYTHOOS.

Major Matthews: August, old Mr. Harris says that your father's grave was exactly where the summer house stood afterwards. That's wrong.

August: "My father's grave wasn't there; it was 150 feet east of the summer house. The summer house was almost exactly at the end of the Pipe Line Road. Father's grave wasn't at the end of the Pipe Line Road. It was further east towards our house. The summer house was north of the Park Road almost at the end of the Pipe Line Road—there was a couple of trees there afterwards. Supplejack's grave was on the north side of the Park Road, too, but 150 feet east. Our old home was on the south side of the Park Road—the Park Road touched the site of it—but another 150 feet or so to the east of the grave. Beyond our house was the creek, and across the creek was the barn."

J.S. Matthews

See map, *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 6, and photos. St. Pk. N. 32, P. 35.

16 AUGUST 1948.

GASSY JACK'S WIDOW, MRS. MADELINE WILLIAMS

"QWA-HAIL-YAH" OR "QWA-HAY-LIA"

Died, North Vancouver, 10 Aug. 1948

The daily newspapers, *Province* and *Sun*, 11 August, and *Sun*, 12 August, announce her death in large type followed by biography of her life, or what purports to be a biography.

The accounts state she was "over 100" years old, and "may have been 110."

The Indian Department give her age as 90. (Official age.)

See *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 5. Also *Conversations with Khahtsahlano*, Matthews, 1955.

Capt. John Deighton, alias "Gassy Jack," died 9 June 1875. The date of the death of his wife is not known to us but, after her death, he "married" her niece, Madeline, or Qwa-hay-lia, just deceased. They had a little baby boy who lived about two years. Capt. Deighton owned the "Deighton Hotel"—not the Sunnyside, as stated in the press—but, in addition, had a little cabin back in the forest, somewhere about what is now the corner of Carrall and Hastings Street, where Qwa-hay-lia presided, and to which he retreated for peace and quietness. The account states Madeline, up to the time of her death, was "making baskets for a living." The fact is Madeline was almost blind. I found out the state of her eyesight by trying my own glasses on her. He did not bring her to Burrard Inlet in his canoe—it was his aunt who came. In 1940 she told me she was about 82, and this is confirmed by the official age given me today, 16 August 1948, by the Indian Agent.

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