

Early Vancouver

Volume Seven

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

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.

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. 7 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 7. 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



[LETTER FROM J.S. MATTHEWS TO F.A. HARDY.]

1158 Arbutus St.,
Kitsilano Beach,
Vancouver, B.C.
27th Feb. 1948.

Dear Mr. Hardy:

A parcel went yesterday by Canadian Pacific Express, charges paid. It contains "EARLY VANCOUVER," Vols. 1 to 6 incl. A seventh is being compiled.

The six books are an attempt, by ceaseless endeavor daily for twenty years, to preserve the chronicle of one of the wonders of our age; the creation of Vancouver. No sums, however great, could replace the contents; those who have spoken, in their own words, are dead—save a solitary one or two.

We have lived fifty years in Vancouver. The conversations recorded are with friends and associates, men and women, who tell, each in their own peculiar manner, of their own experiences in and about Vancouver, both before and after it became a city; nothing has been borrowed or copied. The set sent you is the only one outside my home.

Mrs. Matthews is poorly. Tomorrow she will join me in a formal note asking your acceptance on behalf of the people of Canada. No presentation inscription has been written as a frontispiece. Mr. Howard Green, M.P., and Senator S.S. McKeen—the latter a Governor of our City Archives, represent Vancouver in Parliament, might be induced by you to hand them to you formally, but our preference is not to bother them, but, rather, leave it to your kind office. We do think, though, that they should know what has been done.

It has been a long long task. My hope is that the self-imposed duty has been true and just to all. Their value, if any, posterity will determine. I am grateful—and oftentimes wonder why—to the Almighty for having chosen me to be the medium through which the pioneers of Vancouver should speak to posterity, while posterity listens to the pioneers, themselves, tell the tale.

Most sincerely,

J.S. Matthews.

F.A. Hardy, Esq.,
Librarian,
Library of Parliament,
Ottawa.