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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Major James Skitt Matthews, Early Vancouver, Vol. 7 (Vancouver: City of Vancouver, 2011), 33.

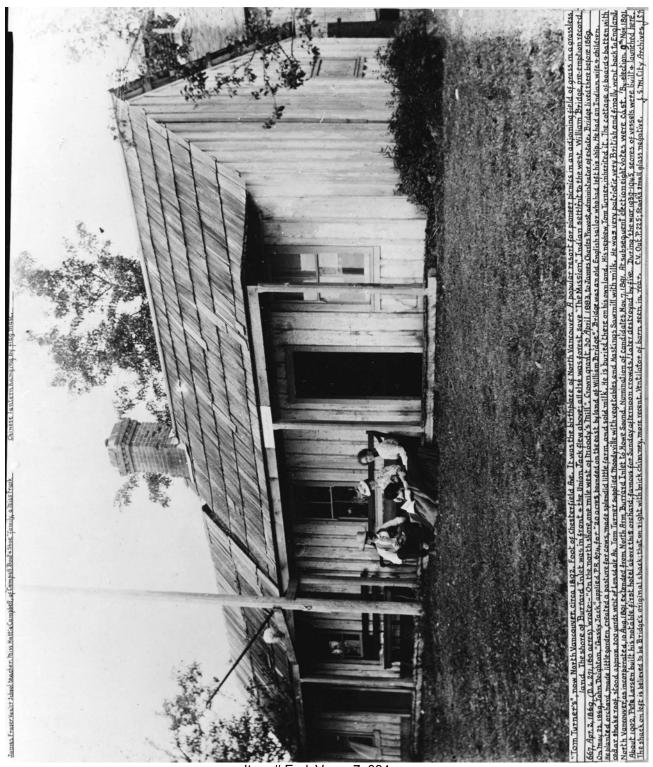
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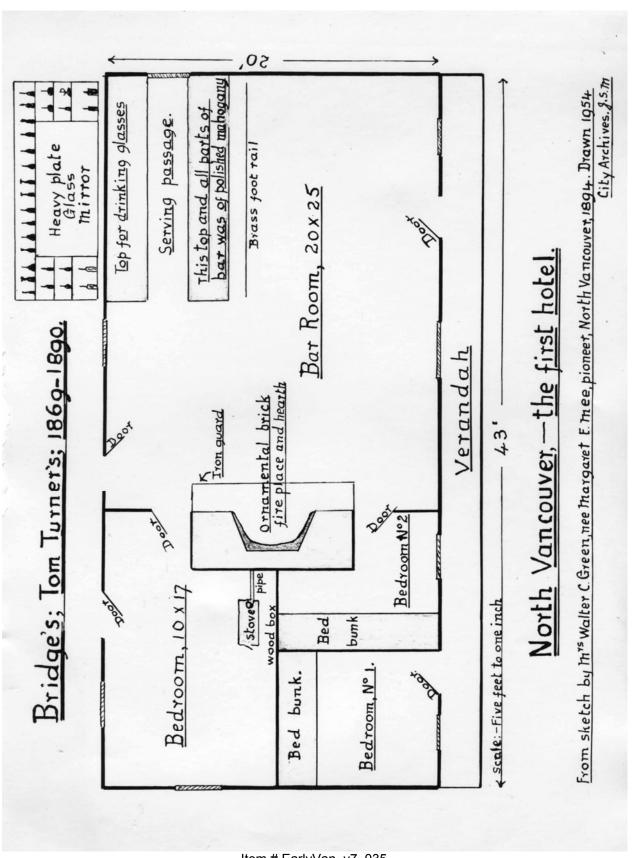




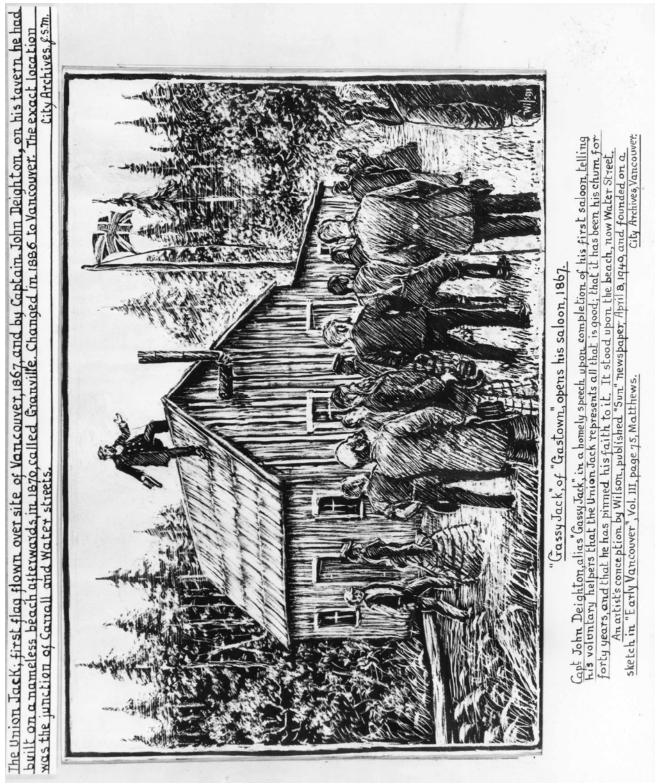
Item # EarlyVan_v7_034

[photo annotation:]

"Tom Turner's," now North Vancouver, circa 1892. Foot of Chesterfield Ave. It was the birthplace of North Vancouver. A popular resort for pioneer picnics in an adjoining field of grass in a grassless land. The shore of Burrard Inlet was in front & the Union Jack flew above; all else was forest, save "The Mission." Indian settlement to the west. William Bridge, pre-emption record 667, Apr. 2, 1869, (D.L. 271, 160 acres) wrote: "On the north shore, one mile west of Moody's Mill." Crown grant, 30 April 1883, to James Charles Provost, administrator of estate. Bridge lived there before 1869. On May 22, 1869, John Deighton, "Gassy Jack," applied, P.R. 674, for "20 acres, bounded on the east by land of William Bridge." Bridge was an old English sailor who had left his ship. He had an Indian wife & children. He planted orchard, made little garden, created a pasture for cows, made splendid little farm, and sold milk. He is buried there on his own land. His nephew, Tom Turner, inherited it. The cottage of board & batten with cedar shake roof, stood approx. 200 yards west of Lonsdale Av. Tom Turner supplied Moodyville with vegetables, and Hastings Sawmill with milk. He was very patriotic, very British, and finally went back to England. North Vancouver, as incorporated, 10 Aug. 1891, extended from North Arm, Burrard Inlet to Howe Sound. Nomination of candidates, Nov. 7, 1891. At subsequent election eight votes were cast. By-election, 9th Nov. 1891. About 1902, Pete Larsen built his notable first hotel above this orchard; famous for Sunday afternoon crowds. Later destroyed by fire. During the war, 1939-1945, scores of vessels were built & launched here. The shack on left is believed to be Bridge's original shack; that on right with brick chimney, more recent. Ventilator of barn seen in rear. C.V. Out. P. 225; Stark's small glass negative. J.S.M. City Archives. J.S.M.



Item # EarlyVan_v7_035



Item # EarlyVan_v7_036

[illustration annotation:]

"Gassy Jack," of "Gastown," opens his saloon, 1867

Capt. John Deighton, alias "Gassy Jack," in a homely speech upon completion of his first saloon, telling his voluntary helpers that the Union Jack represents all that is good; that it has been his chum for forty years, and that he has pinned his faith to it. It stood upon the beach, now Water Street.

An artist's conception by Wilson, published "Sun" newspaper, April 8, 1940, and founded on a sketch in "Early Vancouver," Vol. III, page 75 *[of original volume]*, Matthews. City Archives, Vancouver.

NORTH VANCOUVER'S FIRST HOTEL (DOWNTOWN BUSINESS SECTION).

The first hotel on the north shore of Burrard Inlet may have been the Moodyville Hotel, or "Tom Turner's." Both were very early.

Mrs. Walter C. Green, eldest daughter of Charles A. Mee, pioneer, North Vancouver, 1894, has drawn a ground plan of "Tom Turner's" barroom. Must have been a very homey place.

(See photo of Tom Turner's Cottage—for exterior. See "North Vancouver, early settlers," Matthews, 1955.)

But William Bridge's had that place before Turner and he set up a bar very early.

The case is similar to John Deighton, i.e., "Gassy Jack" in Granville. Both in the same class. Wild, primitive surroundings. John Deighton built a shack for a saloon for sailors of ships at the Hastings Sawmill. Bridge did the same thing for the sailing ships at Moodyville, a sort of "out of bounds" place where sailors could do as they liked without interference from the sawmill management, who feared fire if they got drunk and reckless.

J.S. Matthews.