

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.

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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.

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consideration and some help," he has often said, "and we can provide a department that will be of inestimable value to the city now and forever."

Apparently Mayor Telford is to give him his chance.

FINIS CORONOT OPUS. (THE END CROWNS THE WORK.)

My congratulations, Major,
 on having turned the trick;
On having stuck to your ideas,
 and having made them stick.
You've had a tough old row to hoe,
 and many a rude rebuff,
But tho' they hammered you like Hell,
 You never cried "Enough!"
And now, at last, you have them tamed,
 and eating from your hand.
You've gained the points you battled for;
 or so I understand.
You've always said just what you thought,
 not dealt in "ifs" and "buts."
It's good to see you out on top,
 for: Man, I like your Guts!

T.C. 27/4/1947.

VANCOUVER DAILY PROVINCE, SATURDAY, 14 JUNE 1947.

Metropolitan Archives

The decision of the North Vancouver City Council to prepare a history of the North Shore for inclusion in the records of Major J.S. Matthews, city archivist, illustrates the growing need for a metropolitan archives to serve all sections of Greater Vancouver.

When Major Matthews began to record the history of the Lions Gate bridge he discovered he could not suddenly break off the record at the point the span crossed the boundary into West Vancouver.

He found too that the histories of Vancouver, Burnaby, North and West Vancouver and Richmond, and the men and women who pioneered them, are so closely intermingled they are impossible to separate.

Because the story of our city and its environs are precious to him, Major Matthews has voluntarily assumed the task of filing the historical records of even such far-flung spots as Gibson's and Grantham's Landings. He does it because, as he points out, there is no one else to do it.

It is high time, however, that the major's efforts were supplemented with money and official recognition. Representatives of lower mainland cities and municipalities could work out a plan for establishment of metropolitan archives, finances jointly and containing the records of all the communities involved.

Future generations would appreciate such foresight.