

Early Vancouver

Volume One

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1932)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1931-1932.

*A Collection of Historical Data, Maps, and Plans Made with the Assistance of
Pioneers of Vancouver Between March and December 1931.*

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

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 1. 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



“HERE STOOD the Drill Shed within which the pioneer corps of volunteer soldiers of Vancouver, the British Columbia Brigade of Garrison Artillery first paraded, January 16th 1894, and from whence departed the contingent to the South African War. GOD SAVE THE KING.”

30 JUNE 1931 - POINT GREY SCHOOL.

The first school in Point Grey originally stood on the site of the present Queen Mary School, but was moved when the Queen Mary was built, and now stands in the 4300 block on the north side of Sixth Avenue West. Queen Mary stands on Fifth Avenue and Trimble Street, and is said to stand upon the most beautiful school site in Canada, originally the old site of the first school. It was a two-storey building (photo, as in 1931, with Miss Violette Russell, one of the first ten pupils, in Archives.) (See N.H. Russell.)

Miss Russell, now of 4406 West Second Avenue, daughter of Mr. N.H. Russell (who died June 1931), an early resident of Point Grey (see Wild animals of Vancouver) says that at first they used the lower floor only. The first teacher was Miss Mackenzie—she taught all grades—the second, Miss Shaw. She thinks the school was built twenty-three years ago. Her brother Dudley was another of the first ten pupils.

WILD ANIMALS OF VANCOUVER.

The school was heated by cordwood, and the cordwood pile was the abode of a skunk; the school had to be closed for a day or so upon one occasion when the skunk became too familiar.

ANGLICAN CHURCH IN POINT GREY.

The first church services of the Anglicans were held in the old school, the children's seats being used as pews. These were the first public services; prior to that, the church services—that is, the very first services of that denomination—were held in Mrs. William Godfrey's home, as also were the first Sunday schools.