

Early Vancouver

Volume Four

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Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1935-1939.

Supplemental to Volumes One, Two and Three collected in 1931-1934.

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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MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH AUGUST JACK HAATSALANO, 13 JULY 1936.

CAPILANO.

“Haxten, my aunt, tell me Old Man Capilano got a Squamish wife; got a Sliamon wife, and he got a Musqueam wife; three women, one man.

“Well, Lahwa, son of Squamish woman; Tutamat, daughter of Sliamon woman, and Frank Charlie’s father, son of Musqueam woman. That’s all.”

Note (by J.S.M.): He did not say if all three wives at one time, we were in a hurry. Frank Charlie lives at Musqueam.

MEMO OF CONVERSATION WITH AUGUST JACK HAATSALANO IN CITY ARCHIVES, 5 AUGUST 1936.

STANLEY PARK. CHAYTHOOS. INDIANS. HASTINGS SAWMILL.

“When my father Haytulk lived at Chaythoos” (end of pipe line road; First Narrows) “we had twenty-four cows, two horses and some pigs” (no goats and no sheep) “running in Stanley Park; Mother” (Qwy-what) “used to deliver the milk to Hastings Sawmill.”

HALF-BREEDS. HASTINGS SAWMILL. LONGSHOREMEN.

“Baker, and Joe, and Peter, all white men married to Indian women, were living on Deadman’s Island, and worked at longshoring at the Hastings Sawmill.”

HERRING. FLOUNDERS. FISH RAKES. DUCKS. SPEARS.

“There were millions of herring in Coal Harbour. After the whitemans come, Indians use nails in fish rakes; before whitemans come, use hard wood—whiteman call it iron wood—make wood good and dry, it get awful hard, sharpen him, drive wood through cedar pole, make fish rake, Coal Harbour full of herring.

“One day when I little boy, with my brother, we been fish-raking in Coal harbour, got lots herring in canoe, when we go by Brockton Point, tide tip canoe, turn over, lose fish, I hang on canoe hard, we get back again, go back Coal Harbour fish rake more herring, but not so many. My mother dry them, when we get them home Chaythoos my mother dry them on sticks, hot sun, put them in sacks; keep for winter.

“Use same wood for spear. Go over North Shore, all along between” (Capilano) “River and ‘the Mission’” (North Vancouver), “look down in water and spear flounder; oh, lots fish for Indian before whiteman come.

“Then ducks. Go over there” (North Shore) “other side at night, have fire of pitch sticks in canoe. I tell you about it before, duck come close, spark them same hard wood spear, not prong, but sharp spear on end pole; duck come close, little sea pigeon come close. Funny sea pigeon; they fly right into fire; dive into fire, splash all over it, make me laugh; all sorts of duck do that, too.”

CHIEF HAATSA-LAH-NOGH. ANDREW PAUL.

“My grandfather Haatsa-lah-nogh, my father Hay-tulk, my mother Qwy-what. My mother” (Qwy-what) “the eldest, her next sister Haxten” (Mrs. Harriet George) “mother of Lockit Joe; her next eldest sister Mrs. Chief Harry—all three sisters, but only my mother dead; there two others dead, too. Andrew Paul’s wife is daughter of Lockit Joe.”

“NAVY JACK.” JOHN THOMAS.

“Navy Jack’s children were Christine” (Mrs. Christine Jack) “who is the eldest and about 69 now, and Emma” (Mrs. Emma Williams.) “They are both living at ‘the Mission,’ North Vancouver, now. Two boys, William and Samson, died.”