

Early Vancouver

Volume Five

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2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1936-1945.

Supplemental to volumes one, two, three and four collected in 1931, 1932 and 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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C.V.N. 57x.6. P. 57x.16

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[photo annotations:]

Road to North Arm, 1888, now Granville st south, Shaughnessy Heights, looking north from [text obscured].

12 JANUARY 1936 – FITZPATRICK MCCLEERY AND SAMUEL MCCLEERY OF NORTH ARM.

Miss Margaret Elizabeth McCleery told me that the two McCleerys landed on D.L. 315 in 1862, and that the spot where they landed was—I should say by the photograph—half a mile or more above the Celtic Cannery; half a mile above Macdonald Street produced. The front of the old homestead which is still standing in 1936, and now the oldest building in Vancouver, was built in 1873, and the back in 1883. Mrs. H. Logan, daughter of Fitzgerald McCleery, was born there 7 May 1878, lives there still, has lived in it for fifty-eight years. The number of the house is 6750 Macdonald Street. The well-known “Clay Hill” was just behind their place some short distance. There is a photograph extant of the old homestead with a number of people scattered about the strawberry patch—ten or a dozen, young and old, and horse with two children on its back—that photo was taken in 1886 or 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzgerald McCleery are together on the left of the photo, beside a stump. (It is a framed photo.)

CLAY HILL.

The photograph of “Clay Hill” (photo P. Str. 46, N. Str. 8), a forest trail with a bridge at the bottom, a buggy at the top, was taken about 1891, west of Marpole, close to the McCleery Farm. Miss M.E. McCleery says: “Gordon Farrell has his home beside it, so did the late Blake Wilson. The River Road” (now Marine Drive) “was a trail in 1870; that is how I know the photo must be about 1891. There is a little bridge over the same spot now, in Gordon Farrell’s garden at 1890 South West Marine Drive.”

D.L. 315, 316, 317, 319, 323.

North Arm, Fraser River; City of Vancouver.

These preemptions all bear to each other a certain relationship due to the fact that Hugh McRoberts, early preemptor, was the uncle of Samuel and Fitzgerald McCleery, and that the McCleerys were related by marriage to Christopher Wood and his cousin Robert Wood. Fitzgerald McCleery, the elder of the two, married Miss Mary Wood; Miss Margaret E. McCleery is their younger daughter, born 17 May 1880.

On 28 January 1938, Miss Margaret Elizabeth McCleery said: “This is the first time I have known that Mr. McRoberts preempted D.L. 315 before my father, but I can understand it, because Mr. McRoberts had the contract to build the trail down the North Arm from New Westminster, and my father and uncle worked for him, but they were not paid in money; they were paid in” (land) “scrip.”

GENEALOGY OF MCCLEERY OF NORTH ARM, FRASER RIVER.

SAMUEL MCCLEERY of the Toy, Killyleagh, near Belfast, Co. Down, Ireland, had a family of nine children of which John Bailey was the eldest, and Fitzgerald and Samuel the two youngest sons; of these two, Fitzgerald was the older.

JOHN BAILEY MCCLEERY, eldest son of Samuel, married Miss Margaret Henderson, and had four children.

ELIZABETH MARGARET (unmarried.)

AGNES MARY (Mrs. Donald McArthur), deceased.

SAMUEL, living, 3115 49th Avenue West.

CATHERINE JANE, living, Mrs. S.F. James, Macdonald Street.

FITZGERALD MCCLEERY, second-youngest son of Samuel, married Miss Mary Wood, sister of Robert Wood—a cousin of Christopher Wood—in 1873, and their children were:

EDWARD FITZGERALD, died in infancy.

ERNEST, died in infancy.

THEODORA MARIAN (Mrs. Harry Logan), born 7 May 1878, who lives at 6750 Macdonald Street in the oldest existing building now, 1938, in Vancouver, built in 1873, addition made in 1883, and whose only child is Harry Fitzgerald McCleery Logan, now going to the Magee High School.

MARGARET ELIZABETH, unmarried, born 17 May 1880, and who lives on the “farm” in another house built in 1891. (*NOTE ADDED LATER:* Now Mrs. Robert Mackie.)