

Early Vancouver

Volume Six

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

2011 Edition (Originally Published 1945)

Narrative of Pioneers of Vancouver, BC Collected During 1940-1945.

Supplemental to volumes one, two, three, four and five collected in 1931, 1932, 1934, 1939 and 1944.

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

Bibliographic Entry:

Matthews, Major James Skitt. *Early Vancouver*, Vol. 6. 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





Proclamation

BY THE MAYOR

TO ALL CITIZENS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Greetings:

SESQUICENTENNIAL OF ARRIVAL OF CAPTAIN GEORGE VANCOUVER, R.N. 13th June, 1792

FROM TIME IMMEMORIAL the festive or solemn celebration—as occasion ordains—of anniversaries of notable events in the chronicle of our nation and the life of its people has been the common and laudable custom, as witness, in 1936, the incorporation of Vancouver as a city was commemorated by our Golden Jubilee festivities.

On this day, 13th June, one hundred and fifty years ago, Captain George Vancouver, Royal Navy, whose honored name our city bears, searching for a passage by sea to the Atlantic Ocean, together with his men in two small boats passed inwards through our Lions Gate, and were the first Europeans to float upon the still waters within our beautiful harbor of Vancouver. Captain Vancouver found a silent haven, forgotten in an old and densely populated world, and flanked on every shore by towering forest. He named it *Burrard*, and sailed away. A century and a half later *Burrard Inlet* had become the principal seaport of the west coast of Canada, and, in a single year, twenty-four hundred vessels followed where he led.

Captain Vancouver's arrival in 1792 ended a primitive order untold ages old, and, in the short space of a single life, there arose in its place out of the wilderness, a great metropolis, ten miles wide by five deep, the happy home of a fortunate, prosperous, and enlightened citizenry. A great seaport grew, inviting the friendly trade, and offering a courteous welcome to the peoples of all nations. Hardy pioneers were followed by master builders, and by the labors of men and women of peace, monumental buildings and beautiful homes spread over the former solitude. In 1867 the Confederation of Canadian provinces made Canada whole, and in 1886 the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway linked up by the "All Red Route" around the world the greatest empire that has been. For all time, the course of countless millions of men of all colors, creeds, and customs, born and unborn, was altered. With all these grand achievements our city is indissolubly associated. The creation of Vancouver was a noble incident in the story of the human race.

It would be eminently proper to honor, with befitting ceremony, the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of Captain Vancouver's visit, for the gallant navigator's explorations were the genesis of much of our good fortune. Nor are we unmindful of its national significance to all Canada, east or west. But we are at war with those who would destroy us, and all that in our hearts we hold dear, and the every moment of the energies of our citizens, young and old, are directed towards the defeat of our foes. Danger besets us, and our posterity.

Therefore, proud indeed as we are of our benefactor, Captain Vancouver, of our magnificent city, and the splendid accomplishments of its citizens, I do proclaim that we are abstaining, regretfully, from those festivities by which it would have been our pleasure and our pride, had peaceful days prevailed, to have marked so auspicious an anniversary in the history of our City and our Dominion.

ON BEHALF OF THE CORPORATION AND CITIZENS,

J. W. CORNETT,
MAYOR

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
CITY HALL,
VANCOUVER, CANADA.
13th June, 1942.

CITY ARCHIVES, CITY HALL, VANCOUVER, B.C.

Item # EarlyVan_v6_059