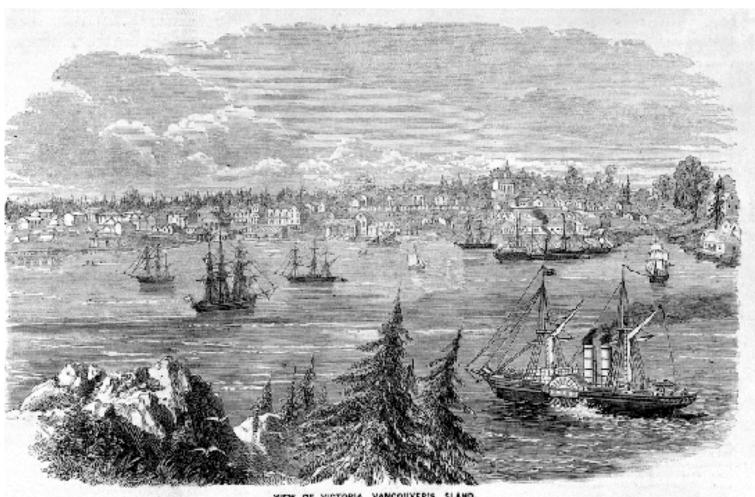
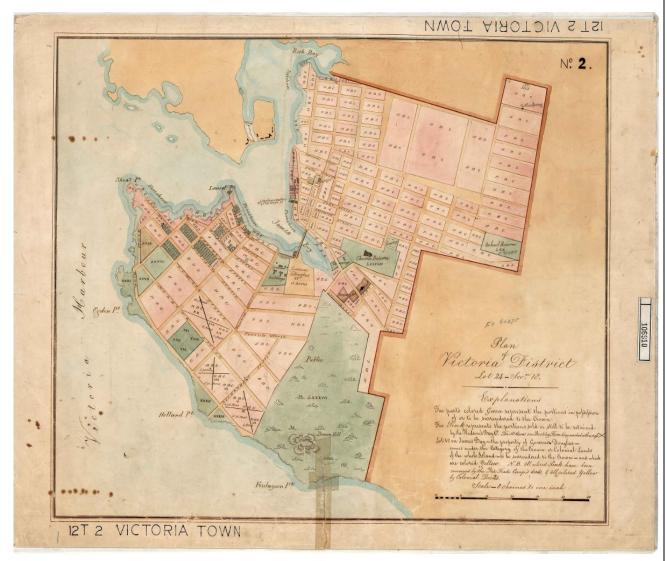
## **Post-Gold Rush Sources**

## Post-Gold Rush Document #1



"View of Victoria, Vancouver's Island." (November 1858).

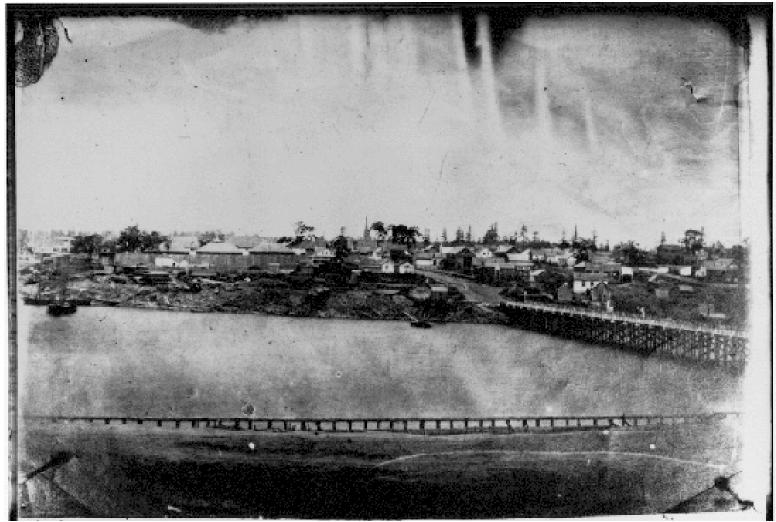
(BC Archives, Call No. PDP00263)



## Surveyor General's Office, Victoria, Map Vault, 12T2 "Victoria Town" file no. 60275 (post 1861)

### **Explanations**

- -The parts colored Green represent the portions in possession of or to be surrendered to the Crown.
- -The Pink represents the portions sold or still to be retained by the Hudson's Bay Co. The 50 Acres on Beckley Farm being marked with a cross X
- -Lot VI on James Bay the property of Governor Douglas comes under the Category of the Crown or Colonial Lands of the whole Island to be surrendered to the Crown and which are colored Yellow.
- N.B. All colored Pink have been conveyed by the Fur Trade Comp's deeds, & All colored Yellow by Colonial Deeds.



"Victoria in Five Parts; Taken from the Bird Cages." Photographer: Richard Roche (August 1859). (BC Archives, Call No. A-02850)



"Yates Street." Artist: Sarah Crease (October 1860). (BC Archives, Call No. PDP02894)



Songhees Village. Photographer: Frederick Dally (1866-1870).

Lieut. Charles Wilson worked as secretary and organized supplies for the British North American Land Boundary Commission which surveyed the mainland border along the 49<sup>th</sup> parallel between British Columbia and the United States, from 1858 to 1862

Vancouver Island itself is most beautiful, but turned quite upside down by the gold discovery, a regular San Francisco in 49. You are hardly safe without arms & even with them, when you have to walk along paths across which gentlemen with a brace of revolvers each are settling their differences; the whiz of revolver bullets round you goes on all day & if anyone gets shot of course it's his own fault; however I like the excitement very much & never felt better in my life.

Source: Mapping the Frontier: Charles Wilson's Diary of the Survey of the 49th Parallel, 1858-1862, While Secretary of the British Boundary Commission, ed. George F.G. Stanley (Toronto: 1970), p. 25.

### Post-Gold Rush Document #7

Dr. John Sebastian Helmcken came to the colony of Vancouver Island in 1850 to work as a physician for the Hudson's Bay Company. He married James Douglas's daughter, Cecilia, in 1852, and was elected to the first legislative assembly in 1856.

The failure of the mines and exodus of so many miners, produced great depression in Victoria, and Whatcom collapsed. Many merchants left for San Francisco again, and the stores of goods were sent back to San Francisco. The value of real estate fell in Victoria – I was offered part of my property back for less than I sold it for, but declined to buy and the same happened to others – everyone was depressed and gloomy, the reaction had come with a vengeance.

I need not say we all lost our head —we were too green to make much money—somehow we could not comprehend and did not believe the change in Victoria to be permanent. . . . Victoria however had grown, had become a town, with a large number of active live people in it —people who had been all over the world and experienced its uprisings and downfallings, so there were many hopeful still . . .

Source: John Sebastian Helmcken, *The Reminiscences of Doctor John Sebastian Helmcken*, edited by Dorothy Blakey Smith (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1975), p. 162.

Dr. John Sebastian Helmcken came to the colony of Vancouver Island in 1850 to work as a physician for the Hudson's Bay Company. He married James Douglas's daughter, Cecilia, in 1852, and was elected to the first legislative assembly in 1856.

Somehow or other the gold discoveries were magnified by steamboat companies in San Francisco and we were startled by shiploads of miners coming to seek their fortunes in the gold fields [in the Fraser Canyon]. When told that we knew little or nothing about such fields, they would not believe, thinking we wanted to keep the whole for the Hudson's Bay Co! Of course there was not any accommodation for them, but they built tents of grey cotton: hundreds of these tents dotted the land from Government Street almost as far as Spring Ridge – but they were peaceable law abiding people. Here then was a city of wayfarers [travellers]: sprung up like mushrooms. The HBCo and local shops did a rushing business. New stores were hurried up by American and other traders [and] wharves were built. . . .

Source: John Sebastian Helmcken, *The Reminiscences of Doctor John Sebastian Helmcken*, edited by Dorothy Blakey Smith (Vancouver: University of British Columbia Press, 1975), pp. 154-155.

### Post-Gold Rush Document #9

Edgar Fawcett was born in Australia. He travelled to San Francisco with his family, and in 1859, his family moved north to Victoria after gold was discovered on the Fraser River.

Before I conclude I would again speak of the large stores in the fort, which supplied the colonists with all they required except meats. It was said at the time that you might get anything at the stores, from a needle to an anchor. This might well have been true, for it was the repository of all the Company's goods for supplying their servants with all their necessaries . . .

It took us the best part of a day to go to Hillside Farm for a sack of assorted vegetables. Several boys would start together for this trip into the country. It is astonishing how the absence of streets or roads lengthens this distance, and so it was then. We started after breakfast and took our lunch, going across country by trail, each with a sack, which was filled by old Willie Pottinger, the gardener, for a shilling. Very good and fresh they were, and very cheap this was considered. With our loads we started for home, and the further we got from Hillside the heavier the vegetables got, and therefore the more stoppages we made to rest. At last Fort and Blanchard Streets were in sight, and we were home again, tired out and hungry as hunters.

Source: Edgar Fawcett, *Reminiscences of Old Victoria*, (Toronto: William Briggs, 1912), p. 36. Edgar Fawcett: My Boyhood Days In Victoria: http://web.uvic.ca/vv/articles/fawcett/Fawcett%27s Victoria in 1850s and 1860s.html

Edgar Fawcett was born in Australia. He travelled to San Francisco with his family, and in 1859, his family moved north to Victoria after gold was discovered on the Fraser River.

After we had got settled in our new home the question of sending me to school was discussed, and easily settled, for it was Hobson's choice. The Colonial School as it was called, was on the site of the "present" Central School. It was the only one I can think of except Angela College, and maybe a private school. There was a fee of five dollars a year charged, payable quarterly in advance. . . . It was thus: Our school might aptly be termed a mixed one, for it consisted of boys and girls who sat together. This arrangement just suited me, for I was fond of the girls. There were white boys and black boys, Hebrews and Gentiles [Non-Jewish people], rich and poor, and we all sat close together to economize room.

Source: Edgar Fawcett, *Reminiscences of Old Victoria*, (Toronto: William Briggs, 1912), p. 29. Edgar Fawcett: My Boyhood Days In Victoria:

http://web.uvic.ca/vv/articles/fawcett/Fawcett%27s\_\_Victoria\_in\_1850s\_and\_1860s.html

### Post-Gold Rush Document #11

Racially segregating [separating by race] Victoria was initially proposed as a necessary response to the crime, disorder, prostitution, and excess of Northern Aboriginals rather than to disease [smallpox, 1862]. Beginning in 1855, local burgers [citizens] annually complained about springtime visits of North-Coast nations, asking that the colonial government evict [remove] them or provide the whites with sufficient arms to mollify [appease] them. Men evoked the chivalric duty as husbands and fathers bound to protect white women and children from threatening, nonwhite peoples, and missionaries and politicians alike promoted Aboriginal relocation and containment as a benevolent [kind, caring] means of saving the benighted [primitive, crude] savage. By 1859 their pleas convinced Victoria's Grand Jury to recommend First Nations people be removed from the city limits, a point they repeated the following year. Soon after, orders were passed demanding that Aboriginal people leave the city at night. Initially, only men were included in this directive. After 1860, however, the ruling was expanded to include Aboriginal women. It subsequently became common for the press to assume that these orders were directed against First Nations women specifically, who were, at any rate, the bulk of the urban Aboriginal population. This ruling, while of an uncertain legal nature, was enforced by local police forces who arrested First Nations women for simply being on the streets. . . .

Source: Adele Perry, *On the Edge of Empire: Gender, Race, and the Making of British Columbia* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2001), 112-113.