

The Art, Historical and Scientific Association of Vancouver, 1894-1960

An inventory of their reports and publications

in

The Library of the University of British Columbia

Special Collections Division

THE ART, HISTORICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER, 1894-1960.

A letter, and an editorial, in the Vancouver Daily News-Advertiser, September 22, 1887, suggested the formation of some organization to record and preserve the history of British Columbia, resulting in the "Art Association". In 1892, history and literature were included (News-Advertiser, February 27, 1892), and the name became The Art, Historical and Scientific Association (see Museum & Art Notes, Second Series, v. 2 no. 2, p. 4). The News-Advertiser of April 15, 1894 announced that it was proposed to revive the Art Association, with the addition of an historical and literary department. The Art, Historical and Scientific Association was officially founded at a meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 1894. A list of the first officers appears in Museum Notes, v. 1 no. 2, June 1926, p. 4. The Association was incorporated May 8, 1901.

From the beginning, the Association regarded the preservation of native Indian relics as of primary importance. Its collection was housed and displayed in various places until 1904, when it was moved into a special addition to the new Carnegie Library Building. The official opening took place on April 19, 1905, presided over by Acting-Mayor A. Bethune.

In 1898, the city gave a grant of \$100.00 towards the support of the Association and its museum. This grant was gradually increased until 1903, when an agreement was signed whereby the Council undertook to finance the Museum. After the move to the Carnegie building, it was considered that the museum was the property of the City, but was under the guardianship of the Association.

The Museum remained in the Carnegie building, expanding into the former library area when the Vancouver Public Library moved into its new building in 1957, until the completion of the Centennial Museum, which officially opened on October 26, 1968. Although the museum is now a city department (1960) the Association continues its support as the Vancouver Museums Association.

For early history, see Museum Notes, v. 1 no. 2, June 1926, pp. 3-7.

THE ART, HISTORICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER, 1894-1960.

Papers, 2 in.

A. Reports.

1. Curator's report, Vancouver city museum [Aug. 1925-Feb. 1937]
2. President's address. 1st.- 1932-58
3. Secretary and Curator's report. 1st.- 1959-

B. Publications.

1. Museum Monthly Journal. v. 1 no. 1- Jan. 1925-
2. Museum and art notes HR/AM 101 V2 M2
3. Guide and handbook to the Museum. HR AM 101 V25 1908
4. Vancouver city museum golden jubilee, 1894-1944. HR AM 101 V25 V2
5. Journal. 1917-1920. HR AM 101 V26