

DAVID DICKSON ENGLAND

David Dickson England was born in Edinburgh, Scotland on Nov. 20 1864, the eldest child of John England and Martha Dickson.

In the last quarter of the year 1883, David marries Sarah Jordan, in Ormskirk, Formby, Lancashire. Sarah was born 23 August, 1868 in Shrewsbury. Their first child and only son, David Harold, was born in 1885, followed by daughters Ada in 1888, Hilda in 1889, Evelyn Ethel in 1890, and Lucy in 1892. The 1891 census lists them as living in Berkdale Lancashire and David's occupation is a gardener.

In 1893, the family decides to emigrate to Canada. They sail to Halifax on the ship Lake Ontario, headed for Russell Manitoba along with 4 other family members. They did not stay there for long because on the 1901 census, they were living in Winnipeg. David was a park superintendent there where he worked with John Arbuthnot, a former mayor of Winnipeg and one of our club's founders.

By 1907, the family were living in Victoria, probably following John Arbuthnot. David is superintendent of boulevards. He is busy planting about 2 miles of boulevards with grass and shrubs along 6 streets in the James Bay area. 1908 he submits a map of Victoria, showing boulevards already constructed and those soon to be constructed, and those proposed. He is suggesting that the Parks Board adopt a park and boulevard system connecting all city parks, cemeteries, and public buildings. He has attend several conventions and states that " I have driven over many of the systems in the United States of America and Canada, and I do not know of any place that lends itself to such possibilities as Victoria and district. In my opinion no time should be lost in adopting such a system as will secure to the people of Victoria the driveways along the water fronts before they are monopolized, and the beautiful water and other scenery blocked from view for all time. Something that not only the present, but future generations would regret."

In 1915 his fortunes seem to change and he moves to Vancouver. From there he moves to Los Angeles California where he dies in 1929. He is buried in Inglewood Park Cemetery.