

6. Cathlingskun (gatinskun "high point town") was a village occupied by the Ravens Cape Ball, known as Those born at Rose Spit of Rose Spit (R13), located just north of Cape Ball, the ruins of which were seen by such observers as Dawson in 1878 and Chittenden in 1884. The people moved into Skidegate, presumably in the 1840s. Its chief was Dladjinkuna "Roar of the Breakers" and Cape Ball was the home of one of the most powerful supernaturals on the islands. This is most likely the "A-se-guang" of Work(s) census, with 9 houses and a population of 120.

7.

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5. Skidegate, named from the town chief at the opening of the historic period (sgida gits "common red stone (or red chiton)"), its proper place name is Thlgagilda (lgagi lda "pool of boulders"). Always a place of importance, an earlier name was Lgai-u (Tlaihu Harrison 133). Located on Graham Island at the north side of the entrance to Skidegate Inlet (I.R. 1, Skidegate), it has always been a major village and is the centre to which the remnants from all the other southern Haida villages moved, and is one of the two modern Haida communities on the Queen Charlottes. Chief Skidegate of the 1790s was one of the greatest chiefs and warmakers, and he or a successor was "Skidegate the Great" of the early 1830s. Another name for the chief of E6 was Nestacanna or Yestakana. John Work's census of c1841 gave "Skiddegates" 48 houses and a total population of 658; Swanton's informants remembered only 22 houses, though of many lineages (E6a, owning lineage, 6; E6b, 2; E11, 5; R5, 3; R6, 2; R8, 1; R10, 3). The Eagles were known collectively as Gitins.

There were many early towns and "story towns" in the Skidegate area, including Daxua at Lawn Hill, lgaixa at Dead Tree Point (I.R. 2, Skaigha), Pebble-Town at Second Beach, Sea Lion Town on Scotsgai Bay, and Heina (which became New Gold Harbour in the 1870s) on the west end of Maude Island. There were myriad population movements within the area. The Ravens of Cape Ball moved into Skidegate about 1850, and the depopulated remnants of the southern villages somewhat later: from Ninstints (c1884), New Clew (1897), and New Gold Harbour (1897). In 1900 their total number was only 257. A Christian (Methodist) village since 1883, it recovered to a population of 316 in 1960, and is now the major southern Haida centre, home of the Skidegate Band.

4. Cumshewa, from the name of the chief, the Tsimshian word for "white man", although in use as early as 1791; more properly  $\text{iki'nul ilnagai}$ , meaning unknown. A major village located on the north side of Cumshewa Inlet about four miles from its mouth (I.R. 7, Cumshewa). The puzzling origin of the chief's name is the subject of a number of Haida stories (eg., Swanton, 19052:105, Curtis, 1916:189), and may have originated during Dixon's visit in 1787 (Dixon, pp. 208, 217). He was the dominant Eagle chief during the 1790s and seems to have used Skedans as his summer village. His winter village seems to have been at the recent Cumshewa. Swanton's informants listed 20 Eagle and only one Raven houses (E5, owning lineage, consisting of E5a, 9; E5b, 3; E5c, 8; R10, 1). Work's census lists Cum-sha-was with 20 houses and a population of 286. Visitors in 1882 (O'Reilly) and 1884 (Chittenden) found only 30 and 60 people there, respectively, and in 1887 the village was deserted, the survivors having gone to Skidegate. Dawson's remarkable photographs of 1887 remain the most striking record of the village.

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3. Skedans (from the Chief, gidansta "from his daughter", lineage head of R4); also known as Koonā (qu na "edge" as of knife, or "point") and sometimes as Grizzly Bear Town (huadjī ilnagai) from a leading crest of its Raven clan owners. This classic Haida village was located on the south side of a tiny peninsula at the eastern tip of Louise Island (I.R. 8, Skedance). Swanton's list gives 20 Raven and 6 Eagle houses (R4, owning lineage, 4; R4a, 11; R4b, 3; E3, 3; E4, 3). Work's census lists "Skee-dans" with 30 houses and 439 people. The population fell to a dozen in 1884, and they moved to New Clew and then Skidegate after 1887.

Traditionally a place of great importance, Skedans had the reputation of being occupied intermittently throughout antiquity. In the 1790s it seems to have been a summer village of the Cumshewa people. Chief Skedans felt a bond of kinship with Tsebassa of Kitkatla, the Tsimshian chief directly across on the mainland side, and this link resulted in the introduction of a number of Tsimshian crests and customs to the Haida.

The recent book Those Born At Koonā by John and Carolyn Smyly presents a total reconstruction of the houses and monuments of this classic village.

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2. Tanoo and New Clew. Tanoo (ta nu "sea grass") was a large village on both sides of a blunt point on the <sup>east</sup> <sup>(I.R. 9, Tan00)</sup> west end of Tanu Island. The Eagles of this sub-area were known by the name of the Tsimshian Eagle phratry, laxski k, and Tanoo was often called Laskeek village. It was also known as Kloo's (Clew's) village, from the name of the town chief (xe u "southeast wind", E3), who at times also held the name Gitkun. Swanton's informants listed 16 Eagle and 10 Raven houses (E3, owning lineage, 1; E3b, 2; E4, 13; R3, 10). The town chief was traditionally the son of the chief of Skedans. Work's census of c.1841 lists the village as "Cloo", with 40 houses and a population of 545. It does not have a great antiquity; in the 1790s "Kloo's village" was farther south, probably at "Chicken-hawk-town" (more exactly, merganser-town) on the east side of Lyell Island. In the early 1880s Tanoo still ranked as the second or third Haida village, but about 1885 they asked for a missionary and in 1887 the survivors moved to a temporary Christian village before moving into Skidegate.

established by Thomas Crosby

New Clew. The temporary Methodist village where people from Tanoo, with some from Skedans and Ninstints, lived between 1887 and 1897, when they moved, with church and houses, to Skidegate. It was located on the south shore of Cumshewa Inlet at the mouth of Church (Mather) Creek, the site of a traditional village known as Qadasgo. (I.R. 10, New Clew)

1. Ninstints. (nan stins "one who is two", the name of the town chief during the 19th Century, lineage chief of E1.) More properly called sgun gway ilnagai "red cod island village", from the name of Anthony Island, on the east (lee) side of which it was located, in the western entrance to Houston Stewart Channel. This was the common winter village of the Kunghit-Haida throughout the historic period until its desertion about 1885, when the survivors went to Skidegate. In the memory of Swanton's informants, it was a multi-lineage village of 20 houses (E1, owning lineage, 4; E2, 4; E2a, 1; E2b, 1; E8,1; R1, 5; R2~~a~~,3; R2a, 1). At the opening of the historic period, it came to be known as Koyah's village, from the dominant chief of the time (xo ya "raven" of R2a), who engaged in conflicts with white traders and was killed in 1795 (see Duff and Kew, 1957 for a sythesis of the available information on this village). The name persisted in Work's census of c. 18<sup>1841</sup>~~35~~ as Quee-ah, listed with 20 houses and 308 people. The site is protected as a Provincial Park.

The only one of the many earlier villages of the Kunghit-People where ruins survived to be photographed was Qaidju "songs of victory town" on Benjamin Point, the chief of which was Kanskinai of R2.

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7. Kaisun. (qai'sun, meaning unknown but perhaps derived from Qa-i or Sea Lion Town from which its people mainly came in moving to the west coast). Located on the north side of the entrance of the first major sound on the west coast south of Skidegate Inlet, it was formerly occupied by the archaic Pitch-People, then taken over by Eagles from Sealion Town. Swanton's informants listed 20 houses (E9, owning lineage, 7; E10, 4; R9, 1; R9b, 1; R10, 3; R11, 4). Works's census gives "Kish-a-win" 18 houses and 329 people. The main chief during the 1870s was Scotsgai. During the 1870s the people moved back through the channel and settled at Heina on Maude Island, from which they moved finally to Skidegate in ~~1879.~~ 189?.

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