

Gathlingskun "High Point Town" (Swanton, pp. 86, 280) was a village which was occupied only for a short time, and did not extend into very recent times. It was situated just north of Cape Ball; according to Curtis, "at Cape Ball Creek" (p. 190). Dawson in 1878 and Chittenden in 1884 both saw the ruins of this village. Dawson described it: "North of Cape Ball, or Kul-tow-sis, on the east coast of Graham Island, the ruins of still another village yet remain. It is said to have been populous, and is near some excellent halibut banks. It is doubtless that called A-se-guang in Mr. Work's list, and said to have nine houses." (p. 165B) Chittenden referred to it as a village between Rose Spit and Cape Ball, "the remains of which may still be seen" (p. 23). As Dawson pointed out, John Work's census of 1841 does include a village called "A-se-guang", with 9 houses and a population of 120, which was most likely Gathlingskun.

The village traditionally belonged to the "Ravens of Rose Spit" (R13) whose principal chief was called Tladzungkona ladzenku'na "Great breaking waves", and who later moved into Skidegate. According to the Rev. Peter Kelly, who belongs to that Raven lineage and has the name of the chief, the Skidegate chief offered them the northern half of the village site, and they moved in. This must have been in the 1840's.

This village was the birthplace of one of the greatest

Haida chiefs, A. E. Edenshaw, who became the town chief of Kiusta and one of the main chiefs of the Masset area. According to Harrison, he was born between 1810 and 1815. "The village in which he was born ~~was~~ disappeared, but if reports be true it was situated near Cape Ball..." . The Colonist o bit called it "Althinskun, which stood on the promontory now known as Cape Ball". Edenshaw lived for some time in Skidegate before moving to Kiusta, and is known to have been in Skidegate in 1842. This probably means that the people had left Gathlingskun about then. (For more on Edenshaw, see pp.).

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