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# Graham City

Skidegate Harbour, B. C.



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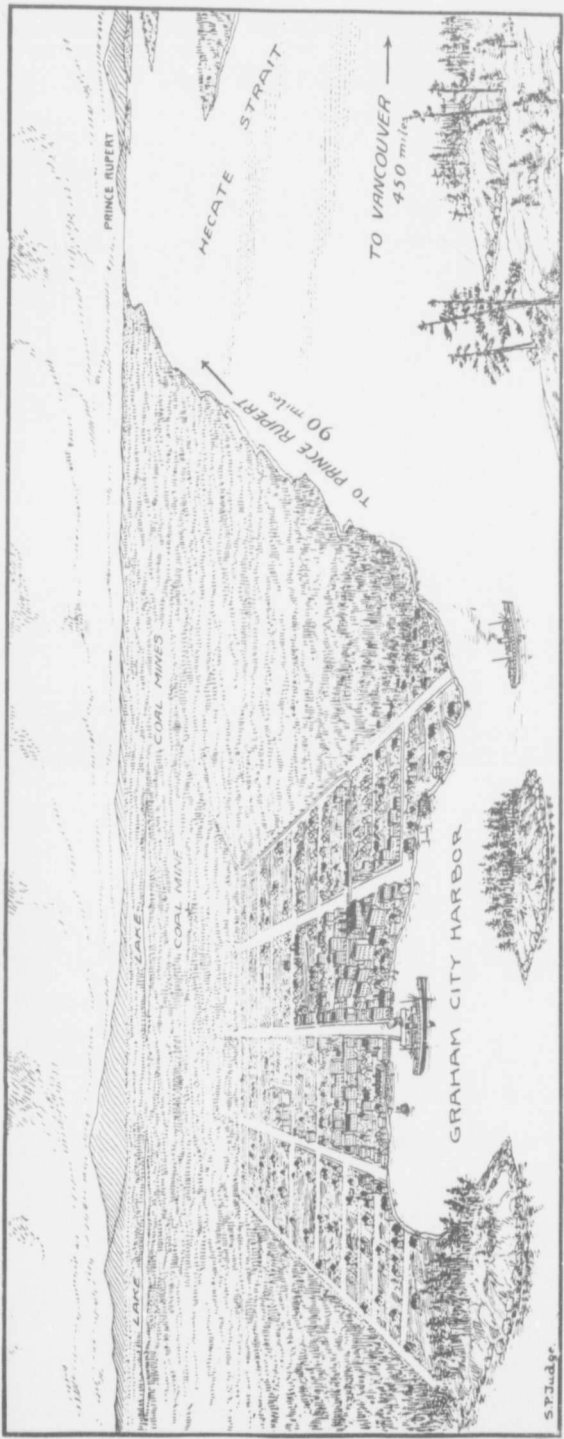
The Standard Trust and  
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300



S.P. Judge

## GRAHAM CITY (SKIDEGATE HARBOR)

If the development of the natural resources of a country add greatly to the value of its real estate, then should the investor inquire into the possibilities that exist in Graham City, formerly Skidegate.

### REAL ESTATE

The coal fields adjoining the city are the richest in the world. The fact is also well known that Skidegate will be the terminus of two railways, so that the possibilities for quick development at Graham City are far greater than those of any other town on the Pacific Coast.

It is well to mention that Graham City is the same as what has been known as Skidegate for the past twenty years.

### WHY THE PUBLIC SHOULD INVEST IN GRAHAM CITY (Skidegate Harbor)

*Because:*—It is a well-established town, situated in a position created for it by nature, and it will be a great centre of population where man's labor will insure a certain livelihood.

### WHY GRAHAM CITY WILL BE THE CENTRE OF THE GREAT FISHING INDUSTRY OF THE NORTH CANA- DIAN PACIFIC.

*Because:*—The fact is now well known that the abundance of fish in the waters of Queen Charlotte Island is simply enormous; that when the fishing industry is properly developed there will be enough fish found in that neighborhood to supply a quarter of the world's population.

*Because:*—The greatest plant in the world for the manufacture of fertilizer will be erected near the city, and because the only fish oil factory now in existence in Northern Canada is at Graham City.

### WHY GRAHAM CITY WILL BE THE PORT OF SHIPMENT OF ENORMOUS QUANTITIES OF COAL.

*Because:*—The coal fields six miles from the city and port, which have been secured by two large corporations, have, as reported by the best mining engineers in the country, the largest seam of coal ever discovered. The Western Steel Corporation is to erect works in near vicinity of Graham City (Skidgate Harbor).

### WHY GRAHAM CITY WILL BE AN IMPORTANT RAILWAY TERMINAL.

*Because:*—Graham Islands are covered with the finest timber in Canada, and possess coal and other minerals, besides large areas of agricultural lands, all of which must find an outlet through Graham City.

The products of these islands will supply Prince Rupert (which is becoming a large centre) and neighboring towns. The coal will be shipped all over the country.

### WHY GRAHAM CITY IS TO BE THE FAVORED SPOT.

*Because:*—The townsite is situated on the only deep water harbor (Skidegate). There is no other deep water harbor within ninety miles.

### WHY GRAHAM CITY WILL BE A GREAT RESIDENTIAL SPOT AND SUMMER RESORT.

*Because:*—Its climate is superb. It is favored with milder winters and a greater share of sunshine than any other point in Northern British Columbia, and suffers less from rain than even Vancouver City.

*Because:*—The beauties of its scenery are unequalled, and people instead of travelling to Switzerland will soon prefer to visit the magnificent

scenery of Graham Island. The Rev. Dr. R. Whittington says: "Graham Island is the centre of resources, and of great promise."

*Because:*—It has a school, church, magistrate, government road boss, gold recorder, wharf, store, and postoffice and a hotel.

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### REV. DR. WHITTINGTON

who has returned from a visit to Skidegate, Graham Island, says, in an interview with the Vancouver Province:

"Skidegate is to me one of the most charming places I have ever seen, and every successive visit has but deepened my first impressions. Crossing Hecate Straits from the mainland to the Queen Charlotte Islands, the contrast is most marked. The mainland is bold, precipitous with its snow-clad mountains and consequent extremes of climate; the islands have sunny gentle slopes and balmy air.

"From the Skeena across to Skidegate is about 80 miles, and as one approaches from the sea, the long sweep of the coast line on both Graham and Moresby Islands, with Skidegate nestling between on the inlet of the same name, points unerringly to the fact that this is the commercial centre of the Queen Charlotte group. The waters are teeming with life. Here are our famous halibut fisheries, and already a considerable beginning has been made at Skidegate in the dog fish-oil industry. Then when the agricultural possibilities of these islands are understood, the long, sweeping slopes of the coast line, rising gradually toward the low mountains of the interior, will be covered with happy farm houses.

"The timbered area of these favored islands are also of the best and of great value. Coal measures abound and are well known, whilst the metals in the mountains are, as all evidences show, of such extent that the Queen Charlottes will become as

great in manufactures as in farming and fisheries.

"Of all these immense possibilities, Skidegate is certainly the centre, and in the near future, with Prince Rupert and the Grand Trunk Pacific calling across the waters, these possibilities will begin to be realized. Even now Skidegate is changing and values are beginning to rise. In the more distant future the coast population of Northern British Columbia will make of these islands a summer and health resort, for, lying as they do within the influence of the Japan Current, the climate is much milder than that of the mainland immediately opposite."

#### COAL ON GRAHAM ISLAND.

Graham Island has vast deposits of both bituminous and anthracite coal.

A Vancouver syndicate recently acquired 7,000 acres of coal lands about 6 miles from Graham City. The syndicate is now forming a company to develop its property. The amount involved in the deal was about \$1,000,000.

Mr. Alexander Faulds, M.E.M., who made an examination of the Graham Island coal lands, says: "In my mind, the property you have acquired is the choicest and most valuable of the Graham Island coal deposits. The aggregate thickness of the several coal seams is over 50 feet, and many millions of tons can be easily and cheaply mined."

Another large area of 20,000 acres of coal lands is owned by the Western Steel Corporation, which company has just completed a merger with a capital of \$40,000,000 for the manufacture of steel on the Pacific Coast. Mr. Herbert Law, vice-president of the Western Steel Corporation, when in Vancouver a short time ago, confirmed the report of the purchase of the Graham Island coal lands and stated that plans had been approved

by his directors to build a railway from Skidegate Harbor to their property.

Skidegate Harbor is the only deep-water outlet from the coal lands on Graham Island.

### RAILWAYS FOR GRAHAM ISLAND.

At the next session of the Legislative Assembly an application will be made for an act to incorporate a company to construct a railway on Graham Island.

This railway will have its terminus at Skidegate Harbor, and will be either at or adjacent to Graham City. This line will run in an easterly direction to the Honna River, thence northerly along this river to some point on Masset Inlet.

Mr. Herbert Law, when in Vancouver recently, stated that the directors of the Western Steel Corporation have approved plans for constructing a railway for developing the immense coal deposits owned by them on Graham Island. It is proposed to start work on a survey on the line early in March, and construction work, it is expected, will be under way early in the summer. The line will have an approximate length of 30 miles. Its seaboard terminus will be at Skidegate, which has a good harbor. Simultaneously the work of opening several large seams will be started.

### GRAHAM ISLAND FISHERIES.

A short while ago, Capt. Rovick of the Canadian fishing steamer *Celestial Empire*, discovered a new halibut bank off the west coast of Graham Island. On this ground the *Celestial Empire* made a catch of 140,000 pounds of fish in three days. In one instance 900 fish were caught by three dories at one set of gear. The fish are declared to have been all large, averaging in the vicinity of 25 pounds apiece.



"As to climate, I should put the rainfall at Skidegate at about the same as Vancouver, though there may be more cloudy days in summer. On the other hand, from what I can learn from people who have wintered there, the winter rainfall is less, with a good deal more sunshine during the winter months, while fog is very unusual. The summer of 1908 has been the wettest along the northern mainland coast known in the history of recent years, and has most certainly been the wettest in my own experience of the past nine years. Yet I can safely say that from the time I started work in July, till the end of October, I lost less time through wet weather than I ever did on the coast before. Snow practically never lies on the ground, and there is never as much frost as on the lower mainland. All last winter there was hardly enough frost to form ice on the water. Being so much farther north, the hours of sunshine on bright days are much longer in summer than farther south, so I should say that the growth is quicker than in more southern latitudes.

#### FRUIT GROWING.

"All the small fruits do very well, strawberries, raspberries and fine, large gooseberries being raised quite as easily and of even better quality than on the lower mainland. When the land is cleared up I have no doubt that large quantities of splendid fruit will be successfully grown on the island, and I have not seen a more suitable country for dairying anywhere in the Province.

"The large fruits have not yet been tried on the island, but, judging from the splendid and clean growth of the crabapple trees, which abound, and also from the fact that I saw a lot of the fruit quite ripe, which I have never seen anywhere else in the Province, I should say that apples anyway will do very well, and probably other varieties of the hardy fruits.

The only fish-oil refinery in Northern British Columbia is situated at Graham City.

### STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO GRAHAM CITY (SKIDEGATE).

The Hon. William Templeman, Minister of Mines and Inland Revenue, speaking at a meeting of the council of the Board of Trade at Prince Rupert, said: "If the council could find a steamship company willing to run a weekly service between Prince Rupert and the Queen Charlotte Islands, with a yearly subsidy of \$10,000, he could practically promise that the subsidy would be forthcoming."

The Grand Trunk Pacific Company has purchased the steamer Bruno, a cargo and passenger vessel with a capacity of 40 passengers and 1200 tons of cargo, at Hull, to run from Prince Rupert to Queen Charlotte Islands.

### MINERALS AND TIMBER.

Gold, copper, silver and lead are found at many points in the Queen Charlotte Group, and considerable development is being done on the gold-copper ledges on Moresby Island, some of the mines having already reached the shipping stage. There are large deposits of bituminous and anthracite coal within easy distance of these mines, and as these also are being developed, the early establishment of smelters is almost assured. The islands are heavily timbered with cedar (red and yellow), hemlock, spruce, balsam, etc., so situated as to afford good facilities for manufacturing and shipping.

### CLIMATE.

Extract from report made to the Surveyor General by Noel Humphreys, Esq., P. L. S., who made an exploratory survey of portions of Graham Island in October, 1908:

"Mr. Eli Tingley, who has located at the head of Masset Inlet, at the end of the Tl-el Trail, has planted quite a number of young apple, pear, cherry and plum trees, and although they have not yet had time to bear fruit, they are all making a splendid growth, and on land which was only roughly cleared this season."

It will be interesting to note that the owners of Graham City have thought of the future requirements of the people of that place.

They have provided a public square, and have reserved a block of land adjoining it, for a city hall. Furthermore, they have exhibited their good wishes to the future city by donating several lots for public institutions, such as churches, hospitals, etc., which will be deeded to the different communities at the proper time. ,

Any information required regarding Graham Islands or Graham City, Skidegate Harbor, can be obtained at the offices of

**The Standard Trust & Industrial Company, Ltd.**

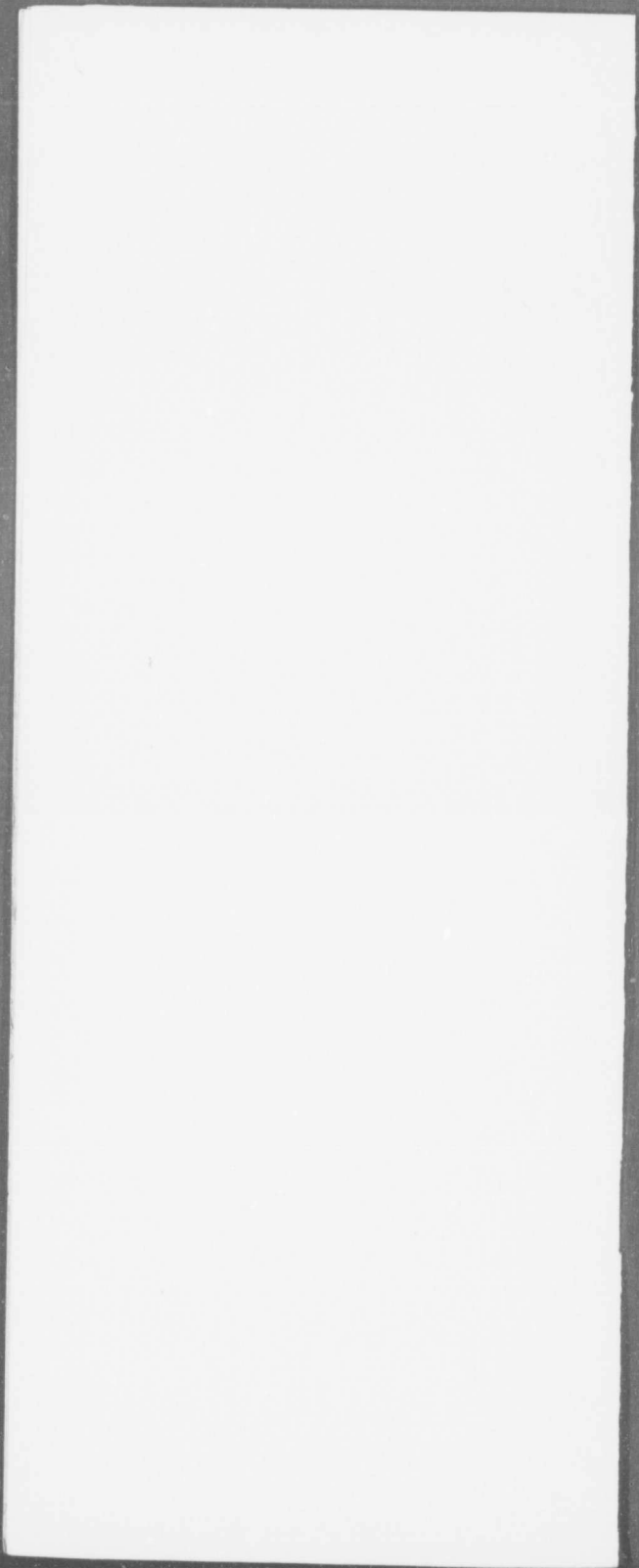
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