


June 19, 1922.

Dear Madam:

Please refer to File -16226-07  
re Granite Creek Townsite.


I have the honour to advise you  
that an auction sale of lots owned by the Govern-  
ment (some with improvements thereon) in this  
Townsite will be held at the Government Agent's  
office Princeton on June 29th next at 2,P:M.

I have the honour to be,  
Madam,  
Your obedient servant,

  
Superintendent of Lands.

Mrs. Smart,

Coalmont, B.C.

  
V/VIVM



12th July, 1933.

J. L. McKay, Esq.,  
3670 Cameron Avenue,  
VANCOUVER, B. C.

Please refer to File 16226/07,  
Attention "TOWNSITES"

Dear Sir:

Re: Granite Creek Townsite.

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, I have to advise you that Granite Creek is a subdivision of 29 parcels, 4 of which are privately owned. The remaining 25 lots held by the Crown are open to purchase for the upset price of \$3,545.00, with an additional \$10.00 for the Crown Grant fee.

This Department if you so desire will obtain and forward you the addresses of the assessed owners of the four alienated parcels.

The matter, however, of placer mining is one which must be taken up with the Gold Commissioner at Princeton, who will be pleased to direct you how to proceed with your application.

Your obedient servant,

107✓

Superintendent of Lands.

GV/MR



17th July, 1933

Sir:

Please refer to File 16226/07  
Attention "TOWNSITES"

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In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, the addresses of the assessed owners of lots in Grantie Creek Townsite are:

Lot 3, Block "C" - W.L. Matheson,  
Comox, B.C.

Lot 8, Block "C" - Miss Delphia Timms,  
1079 Granville St.,  
Vancouver, B.C.

Block "B" - J.J. Malone, Esq.,  
Nelson, B.C.

Lot 4, Block "A" - S.A. Williams, Esq.,  
223 - 22nd St.W.,  
Saskatoon, Sask.

Your obedient servant,

147  
Superintendent of Lands

J.L. McKay, Esq.,  
3670 Cameron Ave.,  
Vancouver, B.C.

GV:DMH  
DH



January 26th, 1953.

L. D. Fraser, Esq.,  
Chief Inspector of Lands,  
Buildings.


Please refer to File #16226/07  
Attention "Purchases"

Dear Sir:

All the lots in the Subdivision of Lot 781, Y.D.Y.D. Granite Creek Townsite, are now in the Crown due to the fact that same were not sold after the subdivision was made or that they have reverted to the Crown for non-payment of taxes.

Consideration is, therefore, being given to the cancellation of this subdivision plan. However, before doing so, it is considered advisable that an inspection be made to determine if there will be sufficient demand in the future to warrant the retention of the subdivision plan. It would, therefore, be appreciated if you will arrange to make an examination of this area during the present year.

Yours truly,

  
R.E. Bouds,  
Superintendent of Lands.

CPA:JIP 



## LANDS BRANCH

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTS

INSPECTION DIVISION 515 Columbia Street,  
Kamloops, B. C.  
June 30th, 1953.

Mr. R. E. Burns,  
Superintendent of Lands,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Victoria, B. C.



Dear Sir:

Attention: "Purchases"

Enclosed herewith is a plan of the Granite Creek Townsite, being a subdivision of part of Lot 781, Yale Division of Yale District, showing thereon the buildings which are presently occupied and other notations covering the buildings which are either presently existing or which have disappeared. An inspection was made of this area in compliance with the request contained in your letter to Mr. L.D. Fraser of January 26th, 1953.

During this inspection it was found that the townsite was not a ghost town as expected but that there were four elderly men in residence in some of the old buildings. These gentlemen and their circumstances are outlined as follows:

1. William Frew

Mr. Frew was in occupation of a log cabin shown on lot 9 of Block "C". Mr. Frew is a veteran of the First World War and is presently in receipt of a War Veterans allowance having been on pension since June 1952. He has been in residence in this cabin for the past 5 months. He is unable to work at present and it would seem most unwise to me to endeavour to have him removed. Mr. Frew was quite reasonable to deal with and stated that he would like to legalize the occupation of this dwelling.

2. Wilfred Bacon

Mr. Bacon is living in the frame house shown on the plan as fronting on Lots 4 and 5 of Block "A" in the Shatford Street allowance. He is an old age pensioner, born in 1879, and is an ex Public Works Department employee. He also uses the old log building on the north end of Lot 4, Block "C" as his wood shed. The frame house (ex Sapho Williams) is in extremely poor condition. It is very dilapidated and filthy and he is living in most miserable circumstances in this building.



*This building known locally as the "Sport Shop" was at one time ~~Bassett~~ Creech's leading house & still quite and had the reputation of having lots of the finest ladies as its inhabitants. Old Billy Bacon was proud of his memories of the rooming days and told some most amusing tales! Will.*

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3. William Dixon:

Mr. Dixon stated that he has been in occupation of the log cabin and wood shed shown on Lot 3 of Block "C" since 1938. He will be 70 years of age in January. He stated that he is on Social Assistance at present but will be eligible for the old age pension. Mr. Dixon claims to have made application through lawyers by the name of Littlewood in Princeton to lease this area and that the application was made to the Government Agent in Penticton.

4. William Churchill

Mr. Churchill is living in a dilapidated log cabin shown lying to the north of Block "B" on the Shatford Street road allowance. Mr. Churchill was not in at the time of my visit and I was, therefore, not able to interview him. It was learned from the other inhabitants of the townsite that he is about 65 years old and is believed to be on Social Assistance. It is reported that he moved into this cabin about three years ago.

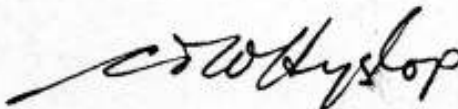
You will note from the accompanying sketch that most of the buildings on this area are either very badly dilapidated or have been removed completely. In looking over the town site and considering the condition of the buildings and the inhabitants of the same, I feel that it would be most unwise at the present time to cancel the plan of this subdivision. It is felt that unless drastic measures are taken to remove the occupants and to destroy the buildings by fire, a series of squatters will be with us for some time to come. I hesitate because of their circumstances to recommend that these people be forced to legalize their occupation of these dwellings. I realize of course that this is what actually should happen and possibly they could be issued leases covering the buildings or the area on which they are residing at an absolute minimum rental.

I suggest that you do not cancel the plan because in drawing up these leases it will provide a legal description of the various areas to be leased.

In looking over Granite Creek Townsite and Coalmont, it doesn't appear that there will be sufficient demand in the future to warrant the retention of the subdivision plan. However, one never knows in the mining business what might happen next and I would suggest that we retain the subdivision for the time being.

You will find enclosed several photographs of the various buildings in the townsite with the description of each on the back of the photograph.

Yours truly,



C.T.W. Hyslop,  
Land Inspector.

- (1) View showing Billy Dixon's cabin on left partly obscured by car. Shack in centre is Billy Bacon's. Old cabin on right is used by Bacon as a woodshed.



- (2) Billy Frew's cabin. Frew standing in doorway.



- (3) <sup>Churchill's</sup> Billy Bacon's Cabin and outbuildings.



- (4) General view of buildings in Granite Creek Townsite. Looking eastwardly from top of high bank behind and above Billy Churchill's cabin at the W. end of Stratford St.

