



Saugatuck, as seen from the top of Mt. Baldhead, dwarfed by steamships

STEAMSHIP TOURISM

In the late 1800s, summer visitors often arrived in town not by road, but instead by Great Lakes passenger ships. These large boats powered by steam engines connected big cities like Chicago, Milwaukee, and Detroit with smaller ports, like Holland, Saugatuck, and South Haven.

Saugatuck's beautiful scenery, refreshing waterways, and picturesque beaches attracted those looking to escape crowded industrial cities. The many resorts and entertainment venues such as the Big Pavilion drew tourists to Saugatuck.

Saugatuck was one of several popular steamship destinations along the lakeshore. Lines such as the Georgian Bay Line and the Michigan Fruit Line had regular routes connecting Saugatuck and other lakeshore communities to Chicago.

The same steamships that transported tourists also transported products from Saugatuck's other major industries. Ships that began their careers carrying lumber were later adapted to transport people and fruit – sometimes at the same time! All of Saugatuck's industries benefited from its proximity to the waterways.



Passengers disembarking at the Big Pavilion dock, 1913

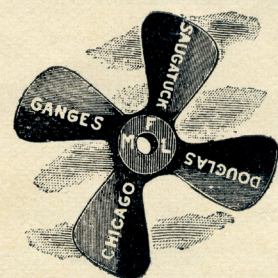


Postcard of steamer headed up the Kalamazoo River

The rise of automobile ownership and road improvements led to a gradual decline in steamship travel. The West Michigan Pike, established in 1911, was an automobile touring route that connected Chicago to Mackinaw City. The Pike traveled through Saugatuck and other lakeshore communities once serviced by steamships; today we recognize the Pike by another name, US-31.

MICHIGAN FRUIT LINE

LOCAL TIME TABLE.



Str. "BON AML."
Str. "SAUGATUCK."
Str. "CHAS. McVEA."

UNTIL JUNE 1, AND FROM OCTOBER 1 TO CLOSE OF SEASON
 Leave Saugatuck Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p. m.
 Leave Chicago Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 5 p. m.

JUNE 1 TO OCTOBER 1, INCLUSIVE,
 Steamers will leave daily from Chicago (Sunday excepted) at 8 p. m.;
 arriving in Saugatuck at 6 a. m. Returning, leave Saugatuck daily
 (Saturdays excepted) at 6 p. m.; arriving in Chicago at 4 a. m.

Above Schedule subject to change without notice.

FARE, \$1.00 EACH WAY; BERTH 50c. EXTRA. BERTHS RESERVED IN ADVANCE.

CHICAGO—Passenger Docks, Rush and North Water Sts.
 Freight Docks (Globe), 530-542 No. Water Sts.
 Telephone Main 2723 and 4571.
SAUGATUCK—Bird & Co., Freight and Passenger Docks.
 Telephone 14.
DOUGLAS—Weed & Co. Freight and Passenger Docks.
GANGES—McVea & Co. Dock.

*Steamer can be chartered for clubs, lodges and other excursions.
 For particulars address*

C. E. BIRD, General Manager,
 SAUGATUCK, MICH.

W. B. GRIFFIN, Gen'l Supt., **W. K. GREENBERG, Gen'l Pass. Agt.,**
 SAUGATUCK, MICH. CHICAGO, ILL.

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