



# THE MIDDEN

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# THE MIDDEN

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## FRONT COVER:

*Daryl Fedje examines a stone tool while Al Mackie takes a break from excavating Early Lithic intertidal site 1127T, Richardson Island (photo 1127T36M, courtesy Parks Canada). See "Ventures," page 5.*

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*Meetings held at 8:00 pm in the Auditorium of the Vancouver Museum, 1100 Chestnut St. unless noted otherwise.*

- Jan. 11 Dr. Hanna Kassis, UBC Religious Studies  
"The Normans in Sicily: A Glimpse of Their Architecture"
- Feb. 8 Robin Hooper, SFU Archaeology  
"Dragon Harvest: Artifacts from Ladner's Chinatown"
- Mar. 8 AT UBC MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY:  
preview of exhibition, "From under the Delta:  
Wet-Site Archaeology in British Columbia's  
Lower Mainland"



# THE MIDDEN

## QUARTERLY IN '95

Rather than five issues of *The Midden* each year, there will now be four. In 1995 *The Midden* will become a quarterly with issues published at the end of winter (February/March), spring (May/June), summer (August/September), and fall seasons (November/ December). Currently there are 12 pages between the covers of each issue. The quarterly will absorb the extra pages of the fifth issue and incorporate them into the four issues. Because of the method used to print *The Midden*, this means an extra four pages per issue instead of the three you would expect (a bonus of one more page per issue for the same price).

## NEW ADDRESS!

The A.S.B.C. has a new address — sort of. Our mailbox has been moved to the post office at the Bentall Centre. Though the box number and the postal code remain the same, we are no longer at "Station A." Our new postal station is the "Bentall Station." Please take note when writing us in the new year:

A.S.B.C.  
Box 520, Bentall Station  
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# SITE PROTECTION AT THE GRASS-ROOTS LEVEL

BY VALERIE C. PATENAUD

The new B.C. Heritage Legislation—Bill 21—passes primary responsibility for the protection of archaeological sites from the provincial to the municipal level of government. Arising from this change are several fundamental problems which will only be addressed when individual archaeologists—both professional and avocational—see the need to get involved with the heritage of the community in which they live, whether or not the community is within their chosen study area.

The primary problem facing site protection at the community level in many parts of the province is the lack of comprehensive, up-to-date site inventories. From the vantage point of Curator of a small museum in the Fraser Valley, I can say with certainty that the known, designated prehistoric sites in our own area represent only a fraction of those that exist. Mapping of the locations of artifact finds reported to the museum indicates a far more complex pattern of prehistoric land use than is currently acknowledged. Unrecorded local sites include one that has produced several seated human figure bowls. Furthermore, there are no historical archaeological sites recorded at all. How can we protect what we cannot prove exists?

The problem of incomplete site inventories is compounded by the combination of tight money and the makeup of most municipal councils which are conservative and development-oriented. Without extensive lobbying on the part of the voting public, the possibility that any current municipal council will provide funding for archaeological site survey is extremely remote.

The second most pressing problem facing archaeological site protection is lack of support of the community, both consciously and unconsciously. Most people are not aware that archaeological sites—both historic and prehistoric—can, and do, occur almost anywhere. Community heritage awareness tends to begin and end with heritage buildings of the last hundred years. Municipal heritage advisory committees rarely take archaeological sites into consideration. Even the most active of historical societies seem unaware of the history which lies under the ground. Exceptions have only occurred when an archaeologist

happened to be on the committee.

When communities do become aware of a site's potential, they can rally round, as was seen in the case of the Hatzic Rock site. The story of the development of that site and its supporting society, The Friends of the Hatzic Rock, should provide an example and encouragement to those who would promote archaeology at the local level.

The third problem, one that archaeological sites always face, is vulnerability. Whether historic or prehistoric, whose location is known is under constant threat from unscrupulous collectors. This factor presents the greatest challenge: how do we promote the value and potential of buried sites when, to protect them, we must keep their nature and location a secret?

It is difficult to make a buried site look exciting on a brochure. Most sites do not have major above-ground features, nor are they in easily protected locations. The Friends of Hatzic Rock had an advantage in promoting that site by having the rock—such a large, photogenic and invulnerable “centrepiece” with a story of its own—around which to base their campaign. Also, the site's exposure next to a major highway and in an open field, made it easier to protect from vandals.

Ingenuity and, most likely, a multi-site focus will be needed to generate support in most areas. One idea might be to focus on a geographic feature, such as a watercourse. The protection and integrated management of rivers and streams is much in the public mind these days. The consideration of prehistoric and historic heritage resources along these watercourses can have benefits for both archaeological sites and for the cause of watercourse protection. The sites can provide substantive information on the history of the watercourse, and on the human uses of it.

A community's most powerful ally in the protection of prehistoric sites is the local native band. Bands are often eligible for site inventory funding and unaware of the fact, or lack experience with the application process. Archaeologists who live in a community but do not work in the area might approach the local band with an offer of information and advice without being seen as trying to create work for themselves.

Buried historic sites are even more difficult to protect. Their status under legislation is sketchy at best, and locations are almost never recognised officially. In the Fraser Valley, for example, many buried historic sites provide the only record of the lives of some ethnic pioneer communities—particularly Chinese, Japanese and East Indian.

This omission is reflected in local museums as well. Very little information about early ethnic groups makes its way into community archives and museums. These institutions tend to focus on collecting objects and records from European settlers. Often, a lack of communication between smaller ethnic communities and predominate cultural entities has resulted in a lack of donations of ethnic materials. Supporters might be found in current ethnic communities which have an interest in demonstrating to their children, as well as the community at large, the contribution that their ancestors made to the growth of this province.

There are no easy answers to any of these problems, but nothing will be done at all unless archaeologists and their advocates are willing to become more active in community affairs. Most communities have historical societies, and many have heritage advisory committees. If you are unable to join these organisations as the “voice for archaeology,” then at least offer to speak or make a presentation at their meetings. This will make them aware that archaeological resources with special needs for protection exist in the community.

The new Heritage Legislation package presents opportunities to protect archaeological sites without having always to depend on the attentions of the distant Victoria. However, because of the lack of comprehensive site inventories, particularly for historic archaeological sites, the onus is placed upon archaeologists and avocational archaeologists to take a more active role at the community level and to press for more accurate up-to-date site inventories, and to promote public awareness of our buried heritage and its special needs.

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**Valerie Patenaud is a free-lance archaeologist living in Maple Ridge, and is currently curator at the Maple Ridge Museum.**

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## A WINTER VILLAGE IN WINTER

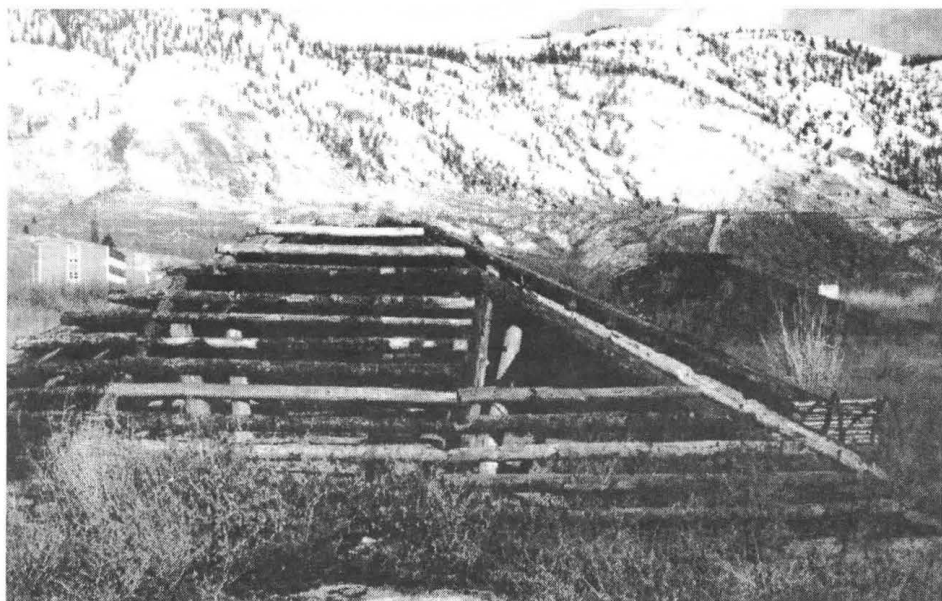


PHOTO CREDIT: VICKI FEDEMMA.

BY VICKI FEDEMMA

Approximately 125 people braved wintry road conditions to attend the Third Annual B.C. Archaeology Forum in Kamloops on November 19-20, 1994. For the first time, the forum took place on First Nations land, at the Secwepemc Cultural Education Society (SCES) and Simon Fraser University (SFU) campus. SCES/SFU is a post-secondary educational institute that is administered and run by Native people. It is located on the grounds of the former residential school on the Kamloops Indian Reserve.

Dr. George Nicholas (SCES/SFU professor and archaeology field school director) and Chief Ron Ignace (Skeetchestn Band, Shuswap Nation Tribal Council) welcomed participants to the forum. Chief Ignace's bilingual introduction in Shuswap and English included a story of Coyote that demonstrated the importance of oral tradition for people "without histories".

The structure of the forum was similar to that of last year. On Saturday morning, representatives of various academic institutions, First Nations heritage organizations and private consulting companies summarized archaeological activities and studies that were carried out over the past

year.

Research and fieldwork updates were presented by Jean Bussey (Points West Heritage Consulting), Catherine Carlson (University College of the Cariboo), Roy Carlson (Simon Fraser University), Stan Copp (*in absentia*, Langara College), Jon Driver (Simon Fraser University), Morley Eldridge (Millennia Research), Diana French (Okanagan University College), Allan Hunter (Ktunaxa/Kinbasket Tribal Council), Martin Magne (Parks Canada), Gordon Mohs (Sto:lo Tribal Council), George Nicholas (SCES/SFU), David Pokotylo (University of British Columbia), Mike Rousseau (Antiquus Archaeological Consultants), Keary Walde (Heritage North Consulting) and Sandra Zacharias (Deva Heritage Consulting).

A second purpose of the forum was to discuss the drafting and passing of the recently revised Heritage Conservation Act. Ray Kenny of the Archaeology Branch and Bill Huot of the Heritage Conservation Branch provided an update on changes to the Act. They then fielded numerous questions concerning the effects of these changes on archaeologists, First Nations, developers, and the

public. [One issue that provoked discussion was the subsection of the Act (6.2.d) that protects sites that contain evidence of human habitation or use before 1846. Another issue was the permit-issuing process, which will take longer because of a requirement (subsections 5.3 and 5.4) for consultation with First Nations].

Elizabeth Snow (Canadian Heritage) travelled from Ottawa to bring us up to date on changes in federal heritage legislation. She noted that amendments to the Cultural Properties Export and Import Act will be introduced early next year. Archaeologists have criticized this act because of loopholes that permit the export of heritage objects [*see, for example: At the Crossroads, The Midden 26(1):7-8*].

Chief Manny Jules (Kamloops Indian Band) described the relationship between the government and the Shuswap since colonization began. He noted that we must "remember the past, but think about our futures," and encouraged First Nations and archaeologists to work together to create a fairer relationship.

Sandra Zacharias facilitated a discussion of the draft guidelines for ethical conduct that have been developed by the Aboriginal Heritage Committee of the

C.A.A. Further discussions will take place at the National Committee Meeting in February, and at the C.A.A. meetings in Kelowna in May. It is anticipated that a final draft of the Guidelines will be ready by the summer of 1995 [for more information or to submit ideas, contact Sandra at 736-6472].

Mike Rousseau announced the establishment of a SCES/SFU scholarship fund in memory of Alvin Jules (Kamloops Indian Band). Antiquus Archaeological Consultants and Bastion Group pledged donations to the fund and encouraged other archaeologists to follow suit [for more information, contact Mike Rousseau at 467-3497].

On Sunday, Kim Lawson (Archaeology Branch) facilitated a forum on Archaeology and Education. The central theme was that educating the public about archaeology is a critical component of heritage resource protection. But how should we present archaeology? Kim suggested that we should consider it not strictly in terms

of "things", but also in terms of stories, information, knowledge. Archaeology and oral history bring different kinds of stories together. Subsequent discussion dealt with teaching archaeology in schools and with informing the public (and industrial) sectors about archaeology and heritage legislation.

Linda Jules, Mike Rousseau and Leona Thomas wrapped up the weekend with a review of the developmental history of the Secwepemc Archaeological Heritage Park, located on the Kamloops Indian Reserve. The park contains a prehistoric pithouse village (EeRb 77) and four pithouse reconstructions that were designed by Mike Rousseau on the basis of archaeological data and consultation with Secwepemc elders. Leona Thomas led the forum participants on a guided tour of the park.

George Nicholas and the other organizers did a superb job of making the forum a success. They created a great opportunity for open dialogue between people with common inter-

ests but often quite different perspectives. From the registration table on Saturday morning to the venison soup provided (*gratis*) for lunch on Sunday afternoon, forum participants were made to feel at home. In between, we had the opportunity to browse through displays and book exhibits, eat "Indian tacos," explore the Secwepemc Museum during a Saturday-evening reception, and continue socializing at the home of Cathy Carlson and George Nicholas.

Thanks, everyone for making the forum a success. See you next year at the University of British Columbia.

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**Vicki Fedemma received her M.A. from the University of British Columbia. For the past two years she has worked with several consulting archaeologists in B.C., and has also worked on excavations in Mexico. Vicki is currently Assistant Editor of The Midden.**

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## DEBITAGE

... **Michael Brand** successfully completed his Masters thesis at UBC in November this fall. The title? "Prehistoric Anasazi Diet: A synthesis of Archaeological Evidence." The thesis examines prehistorical Anasazi diet through data synthesized from analyses of fauna, flotation and pollen, coprolite, and stable carbon isotope analysis. The study found that the utilization of food resources remained stable throughout the Anasazi occupation of the Colorado Plateau. Mike is temporarily working with Arcas until he begins his PhD in September.

... **Parks Canada** was all over B.C. this summer: **Peter Francis** was kept busy working at Fort St. James national Historic Park in central B.C. above Vanderhoof, as well as Mount Revelstoke, Glacier and Yoho National Parks down in southeastern B.C. ... **Jack Porter** of Parks returned for another summer of fun directing a

successful field school at Fort Langley National Historic Park in cooperation with **Doug Hudson** of the University College of the Fraser Valley. . . and **Ron Heitzmann** participated in a structural stabilization project at McLean Mill National Historic Park for Parks Canada. . . **Marty Magne**, Parks' Western Regional Officer headquartered in Calgary, spent more time in the air than on the ground keeping track of everyone. Marty managed to visit Kitwanga National Historic Site, as well as check up on the crews in Gwaii Haanas, Pacific Rim, and Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Park.

... Antiquus Archaeological Consultants now has six full-time employees: **Mike Rousseau**, **Jeff Bailey**, **Martin Handly**, **Peter Merchant**, **Jim Spafford**, and **Mike Will**. Jim replaced **Ian Franck** who recently left the company to pursue an

M.A. . . Part-time archaeologists retained in the past year by Antiquus include **Diana Alexander**, **Myron Burger**, **Kelly Bush**, **Dave Crellin**, **Mary DePaoli**, **Rob Field**, **Malcolm James**, **Shauna McRanor**, **Don Jolly**, **George Kaufmann**, and **Amber Ridington**. In addition, many First Nations people were hired at various times to assist in the field.

... The CAA is currently working on the establishment of a bulletin board on the internet that would allow a new method of communication among archaeologists across the country. The board would allow direct interaction between users, and would be free to CAA members.

## VENTURES IN CULTURAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT

BY IAN D. SUMPTER

As one of many federal land managers in Canada, Parks Canada plays a significant role in the protection of cultural heritage under its jurisdiction. In British Columbia recent land use agreements and business plans between Parks Canada and First Nations have been successful in fostering co-operative partnerships in natural and cultural resource protection.

Nineteen-ninety-four saw the continuation of collaborative training programs in cultural resource protection and stewardship between Parks Canada's Archaeological Services, Calgary (ARO) and two aboriginal groups whose traditional territories occur within the bounds of Gwaii Haanas-Haida Heritage Site, and Pacific Rim National Park reserves. In concert with Millennia Research of Sidney, field training in 1994 focused on aspects of coastal survey techniques, archaeological excavation, theory, and cultural resource management.

### Gwaii Haanas

The 1994 Gwaii Haanas Archaeology Program (GHAP) comprised three projects: continuation of a multi-year archaeological inventory, paleoenvironmental research, and exploratory excavations at two Early Period intertidal lithic sites. The inventory was conducted by a Haida team led by Crew Supervisor Bert Wilson working under contract on a day-to-day basis with Millennia Research. Millennia's Al Mackie provided direction and training services throughout the field and post-field components.

The program's inventory component represented the fourth of a five-year coastal survey producing baseline data for the management of Native and non-Native heritage within the Haida Heritage Site/Park reserve. The field element was of approximately two months duration and encompassed the area from Nagas Point to Tasu Head on

the west side of Moresby Island. Forty-five new archaeological sites were recorded. On the east coast of Moresby Island, 23 new sites were documented by a second crew which included Ian Sumpter, Joanne McSporran, and Coast Archaeologist, Daryl Fedje.

The second component of the 1994 GHAP project included paleoenvironmental research by Daryl Fedje conducted in conjunction with Pacific Geoscience Centre (PGC) at Sidney, B.C. This multi-year research program included selective investigation of terrestrial marine transgression features and other post-glacial landforms, as well as marine paleoecology. This component will attempt to correlate known archaeological site location data for the Gwaii Haanas coastline (especially the circa 9000 year old intertidal archaeological

site distribution) with marine geological data recovered by PGC in 1993 and 1994. This should help predict where submerged, pre-10,000 year-old archaeological sites may be found.

The GHAP project included exploratory archaeological investigations at two Early Period intertidal lithic sites in the Darwin Sound area, the Richardson Island (1127T) and Echo Bay (1128T) sites. Both sites underwent controlled surface collecting and limited subsurface testing programs. Although detailed analysis has yet to be completed on the assemblages, radiocarbon dating indicates that both sites were occupied between ca. 9300 and 9100 years before present, during a time of rapid sea-level change.

### Pacific Rim

At Pacific Rim National Park Reserve, Archaeological Services initiated or supported a number of cultural resource management (CRM) activities. These included the assessment of several visitor facility improvements in the Long Beach and Broken Group Island units; and revisitation of a number of threatened Native and non-Native heritage sites in the Broken Group and West Coast Trail areas.

A significant component of this program was the participation and training of two Ditidaht band members, Fred Sieber and Frank Knighton, in the various aspects of CRM. This year represented Parks Canada's second year in implementing programs oriented towards fostering co-operative resource stewardship.

Finally, the 1994 Pacific Rim program saw Archaeological Services assist the Ditidaht Band in the completion of two externally funded research-training projects: an Access to Archaeology project at three shell middens on the Tsuquanah and Iktusasuk reserves; and a joint



*Microblade core recovered from Parks Canada site 1127T, an Early Period intertidal lithic site on Richardson Island in Darwin Sound, Queen Charlotte Islands. Photo 1127T23M, 25W-94K4M31, courtesy Parks Canada.*



Access to Archaeology program excavations in wet-site component at 296T on Ditidaht Band's Iktuksasuk I.R. 7, Nimitabt Lake. Crew members include (L-R) Daryl Fedje, Frank Knighton, Morley Eldridge, and Fred Sieber (photo 296T2M, courtesy Parks Canada).

Ditidaht/B.C. Archaeology Branch venture that is applying a GIS predictive model to the locating of CMTs [culturally modified trees] and habitation sites in the band's traditional territory. The field component of the Ditidaht/BC Archaeology Branch predictive model project was overseen by archaeologist Rick Howard.

The band's Access to Archaeology pro-

ject was directed by Morley Eldridge of Millennia Research, and offered Fred Sieber and Frank Knighton a 12-week training opportunity on archaeological methods through recovery of eroding material culture from three pre-contact and historic village sites. The 1994 Access to Archaeology excavations revealed an assortment of significant and perishable artifacts (i.e., traditionally made basketry,

matting, twine, bone and wood points, shell implements), fish weir remains, and botanical and faunal materials that are being lost to severe wave erosion arising from power boat use on Nitinaht Lake.

### In sum . . .

A number of challenging cultural resource management activities involving Parks Canada's Archaeological Services (ARO) and two First Nation groups were implemented during the 1994 field season. With a long-term goal of co-operative resource management, Archaeological Services is committed to offering technical assistance and other services regarding cultural resource management and protection.

For further information on the above projects, contact Ian Sumpter in Victoria at (604) 363-0578, or Daryl Fedje, Coast Archaeologist, and Dr. Martin Magne, Chief of Archaeological Services, Parks Canada, Calgary, at (403) 292-6472.

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**Ian Sumpter is an Assistant Archaeologist with Archaeological Services, Parks Canada, Department of Canadian Heritage. Based out of Alberta Region Office, Calgary, Ian has been on assignment in Victoria since 1990. He acquired his B.A. in Archaeology from Simon Fraser University in 1980.**

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*Continued from page 7...*

The second area where I hoped the gazetteer might be useful to archaeology was a bit more of a problem. I found the gazetteer hard to use. While Galois provides extensive archival and ethnographic background data on the sites, it can be fairly confusing to sort out. To give an example, in the territory of the Kwakiutl tribes there is a cluster of sites in Beaver Harbour on Vancouver Island next to historic Fort Rupert. At first glance there appear to be as many as twenty different settlement sites within this small area. Four of these sites, however, are actually the same one—the village of Tsaxis—which would have been shared by each of four different tribal groups. This was further complicated by arrows on the maps purportedly showing an annual movement to a winter village (Tsaxis) from other winter villages on nearby islands in Johnstone Strait, when in fact this was a *permanent relocation* to the Fort Rupert area. Many of the settlement clusters also contain a complicated mix of villages,

“old” villages, resource sites with buildings, and resource sites without buildings.

The most problematical omission, however, relates to Galois' quote given above. In the discussion on individual sites there is a real lack of information on the physical environment. What sorts of terrain constraints were present at these locations? What were the usual vegetation types at these sites? Were some locations “better places to live” because of a good collection of environmental and topographic elements? These are the sorts of variables that an archaeologist would find most useful when trying to describe a prehistoric site as part of a pattern of settlements.

A great deal of work must have gone into the production of this book and it brings together a very rich collection of information. Galois' chapter discussing the change in Kwakwaka'wakw settlement as a result of European contact is a fascinating cautionary tale for those who

would use ethnography as a description of the way things always have been. It remains to be seen how this volume will be used by other researchers either for writing histories of the people involved in these events, or to increase our understanding of the prehistory of this region.

*Grant Beattie*

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**Grant Beattie is currently an M.A. student at U.B.C., doing research on settlement patterns using GIS.**

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## RICH COLLECTION OF INFORMATION

One of the more fiendish problems to face archaeologists working in coastal areas of British Columbia is how to describe something like a settlement pattern for any collection of sites in a particular region. Whether it is a group of shell middens or culturally modified trees or the odd site we dare to designate a "village," the tendency has been to describe sites individually and then try and link them to others on the basis of similar artifact or faunal assemblages. What is largely missing is research that can say something like "Village site A was a neighbour of village site B and they shared resource procurement sites X, Y, and Z." In other words, we would like to be able to make statements about how we think prehistoric people made use of their landscape.

This new book by Robert Galois, the first in UBC Press's new Northwest Native Studies series, deals with many of the same sorts of problems archaeologists face when describing human settlement on the Northwest Coast. Galois has looked at the traditional tribal territories of Kwak'waka-speaking people which comprise a wide area on both sides of Queen Charlotte Strait including the north-eastern part of Vancouver Island, and much of the area on the mainland from Smith Inlet in the north down to Toba Inlet in the south. The book is primarily a reference work in the form of a gazetteer that brings together information on village and resource-procurement sites used by the Kwakwaka'wakw during the time from first contact with Europeans up to 1920.

This work is grounded in the pioneering efforts of Franz Boas and Wilson Duff, and then further checked and expanded upon through the use of an extensive array of ethnographic and archival sources. About eighty percent of the text is taken up with the gazetteer which is subdivided into eight geographic subregions, with a further tribal breakdown for each region. Each tribal region

section is introduced with a background discussion of the historical changes that took place since the arrival of European traders and settlers.

Maps of the area with the various types of sites plotted on them are then followed by individual site descriptions detailing the known use-history of the site. Most sites include the Kwak'wala name and Boas' translation into English. Where available, an origin-narrative associated with the tribal group is provided in both Kwak'wala and English.

How good is this book as a research tool? There were a couple of areas where I felt archaeology might benefit. The first was in the way this kind of ethnographic and historical data can be used to further our understanding of the way people distribute themselves across a landscape. Could this be applied to archaeological sites? Secondly, what could the gazetteer tell me about the actual use of the land by the Kwakwaka'wakw and their ancestors? As Galois himself states, these settlements are "a culture's inscription upon the landscape—a record of people's interaction with their environment" (p.19).

In terms of the insights into overall distribution that the data provides, it strikes a clear note of caution about following accepted patterns. The event of European traders and settlers coming into the area had a remarkable impact on the Native communities. This involved a movement towards the outer coastal area to take advantage of trade, as well as numerous abandonments because of the impact of disease and the impact of the new White communities. In other words, this period was one of great settlement *change* brought about by the colonial phenomenon. It demonstrates to the archaeologist, therefore, how great care must be taken to avoid an uncritical use of something like a seasonal round derived from ethnography, and projecting it holus-bolus onto a prehistoric situation.

*Continued on page 6...*

### **Kwakwaka'wakw Settlements, 1775-1920: A geographical Analysis and Gazetteer**

by **ROBERT GALOIS**  
with contributions from Jay Powell and Gloria Cranmer Webster

UBC Press, Vancouver 1994  
465 pp, maps, bibl. \$60.00 (hardbound)

# NEW PUBLICATIONS

## **Prehistory of the Northwest Coast**

by R.G. MATSON and GARY COUPLAND

Academic Press: Orlando, Dec. 1994

*c. 350 pp., maps, charts, illus., bibl. US \$69.95 (cloth)*

Provides a comprehensive, descriptive overview of the cultural complexity on the Northwest Coast from northern California to Alaska; topics covered range from the earliest settlements to the subsequent cultural diversities seen in these Native populations.

## **Cedar: Tree of life to the Northwest Coast Indians**

by HILARY STEWART, with forward by BILL REID

Washington University Press; Seattle, March 1995

*192 pp., illus., map, bibliog., index. US \$14.95 (paper)*

Vivid descriptions, photographs and more than 550 detailed drawings show the tools, techniques and functions of the many objects made from the wealth of raw materials taken from the cedar tree; anecdotes, oral history, and the accounts of early explorers, traders and missionaries highlight the text.

## **An Iron Hand Upon the People: The Law Against the Potlatch on the Northwest Coast**

by DOUGLAS COLE and IRA CHAIKIN

Washington University Press: Seattle, March 1995

*248 pp., illus. US \$14.95 (paper)*

Traces the history of the anti-potlatch law, the government's attempts to enforce it, and the widespread Native opposition to the repressive legislation since the potlatch was outlawed in 1885.

## **Tales from the Dena: Indian Stories from the Tanana, Koyukuk, and Yukon Rivers**

edited by FREDERICA DE LAGUNA

University of Washington Press: Seattle, May 1995

*304 pp., illus., maps, bibliog., index. US \$29.95 (cloth)*

Forty-one Alaskan Indian tales transcribed in 1935 as nearly as possible in the narrators' own words, range from serious myths to slyly humorous misadventures that convey their truths with laughter; provides a rich trove of ethnographic material that is virtually irreplaceable; supplemented by an introduction providing the historical and ethnographic context necessary for understanding the ethnographic context in which the stories functioned.

## **Sm'algayax: A Reference Dictionary and Grammar of the Coast Tsimshian Language**

compiled and edited by JOHN ASHER DUNN

University of Washington Press: Seattle, May 1995

*225 pp., English index to dictionary. US \$22.50 (paper)*

Accepted as the spelling authority and grammar that is used throughout Alaska and British Columbia; the dictionary section includes morphological information, English glosses, and phonetic transcriptions showing local variants of each entry; the reference grammar is a non-technical introduction to phonology, morphology and syntax with summaries showing the basic sentence types and their grammatical relationships.

## **Ancient North America: The Archaeology of a Continent, second edition**

by BRIAN M. FAGAN

Thames and Hudson: New York, 1994

*480 pp., illus. US \$34.95 (paper)*

Good, up-to-date introductory text for North American archaeology; includes new material on the native prehistoric peoples of the Pacific Coast's interior plateau.

## **Archaeology: Theories, Methods and Practice**

by COLIN RENFREW and PAUL BAHN

Thames and Hudson: New York, 1994

*544 pp., illus., photos, boxed inserts. US \$34.95 (paper)*

Presents the discipline of archaeology; reviews field, laboratory and library research practices of archaeologists through case studies.

# SPIRIT CAMP

BY SANDRA MORRISON,  
HEATHER MYLES, and BRIAN THOM

Approximately six kilometre north of Chilliwack, on the northern shore of the Fraser River, lies Calamity Point, a cleared grassy terrace overlooking the confluence of the Fraser and Harrison Rivers. Maple and cedar trees intermingled with overgrown bushes hug the slope down to the river's edge, while 50 meters behind the terrace the forest begins its steep climb up Harrison Knob.

This picturesque site has been designated by the provincial archaeology branch as DhRl 25, but very little about the depth and extent of the site's components were known until this summer.

Historically, Calamity Point was the location of a farming settlement. Today, all that remains of this chapter of the site's history is the cleared terrace and abandoned farmhouses. Prehistorically, the extent of the site's use is yet unknown, but its ideal location on the Fraser

River strongly suggests that Calamity Point was a valuable salmon harvesting and processing site.

Sto:lo oral tradition says that this site is where the traditional fishing technique of dip-netting originated. Also, it is the only area along the lower Fraser where one can effectively wind dry salmon. Taken together, these aspects suggest that this site would have made an excellent location for numerous economic activities and social gatherings.

Calamity Point may also be an extension of the neighbouring Scowlitz site (DhRl 16) which lies 100 metres north along the shore of the Harrison River. Several burial mounds similar to those present at Scowlitz (Morrison and Myles, 1992) also exist at Calamity Point.

In late July of 1994 the Sto:lo Nation

were using this site as the location of their "Spirit Camp," a program for children to learn about traditional cultural ways from their elders. This program included not only the instruction of salmon harvesting and processing, but also the construction of a contemporary Coast Salish pithouse. It was through this activity that the site's underlying cultural deposits were discovered. While



*The archaeology crew examine the stratigraphy of the excavation cut into the pithouse wall (photo credit: Ann Mohs).*

digging the pithouse, the workers unearthed artifacts such as large pebble tools, choppers, cores, and vast amounts of utilised flakes.

We were invited to the site to try to answer questions such as how deep the deposits were, how old the site was, and what its relationship to the Scowlitz site was. Upon our arrival at the Spirit Camp site, we found the pithouse, designed to be 30 feet in diameter and 6 feet deep, almost halfway to completion. Distinct dark cultural layers were clearly visible in the pithouse profile, and the backdirt piles were littered with artifacts. It was clear to us that an exploration of the site was necessary. Due to the urgency of the situation, Gordon Mohs, on behalf of the Sto:lo Nation, requested an immediate investigation.

## Methodology

Because of the limited time available—construction on the pithouse was still in progress—we decided the most efficient way to recover information would be to take advantage of the already excavated hole. In order to get a clear picture of the stratigraphy we shaved back the pithouse wall. To determine the site's cultural and depositional history without

further disturbing the site, it seemed best to excavate a 1m x 30cm cut in the pithouse wall. We stopped excavation of the test cut when we reached the bottom of the contemporary pithouse, 165 cm below the surface.

Our test excavation exposed four distinct, thick cultural layers. To determine the complete depth of these deposits, we sank an exploratory shovel-test pit into the floor of the contemporary pithouse. We exposed two more cultural layers before we reached

sterile glacial fluvial deposits at 285 cm below the surface.

## Deposits and Stratigraphy

Deposits from both the cut and test pit indicated a continuous cultural occupation from the surface to the interface of the sterile glacial deposits. This was determined not only through the recovery of artifacts and lithic debris, but also by the extent of charcoal present, unidentified animal bone fragments, organic material, and fire-cracked rock throughout the deposits. Several charcoal samples were taken for radiocarbon dating.

## Artifacts

We recovered total of 59 tools and 407 flakes of debitage from the test excavations. Additional artifacts were found in

the backdirt from the construction of the Spirit Camp pithouse. Based on the types and quantity of artifacts found in the *in situ* deposits of DhRl 25, the Charles Culture (circa 5000 to 3500 BP) appears to be an important component of the site

Seven different tool types were found in the six layers excavated. The disturbed backdirt revealed a range of artifacts— notably pebble and flake tools, beads, a few projectile points, and a well-formed grinding stone or dish—but because these artifacts had no definite archaeological provenience, they were not considered to the extent of the tools and debitage found in the test excavations. Since this investigation took place, Sto:lo workers have been slowly sifting through the backdirt piles and have recovered over ten thousand artifacts. The exact number has not yet been tabulated.

#### Tools from DhRl 25

##### Shaped Tools

Ground stone disk beads	26
Quartz crystal microliths	6
Leaf-shaped biface	1
Chipped adze (preform)	1

##### Unshaped Tools

Utilised flakes	16
Retouched flakes	7
Cores	2

<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>
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#### Tools

The overall lack of ground stone (particularly ground slate knives and ground stone points) and the abundance of pebble and flake tools, suggest that these deposits are very old. Ground stone tools are usually found in sites dating 3500 BP and later—after the Charles Culture.

However, ground-stone technology was not completely absent, as evidenced by the presence of the many ground stone disk beads. Ground stone beads, predominately made from mudstone, are abundant in other Charles Culture components at other sites (specifically Crescent Beach, DgRr 1), but are absent from older, pre-5000 BP Old Cordilleran deposits (Thom, 1991). Twenty-four of the twenty-six beads found in the *in situ* deposits at DhRl 25, were of mudstone, and the remaining two made from slate. The proportion of mudstone beads to slate beads strengthens the suggestion that the site's lower

deposits date to the Charles Culture.

The deposits in the lowest level of the test pit were extremely sparse, disclosing only a few flake tools. These deposits sit on very compact glacial fluvial outwash, and may be somewhat older than those found in the dense cultural matrix above.

Generally, we see an increase in utilised and retouched flake tools in the lower deposits. These expedient flake tools may have simply been a factor of the relative thickness of the deposits, or of site function. They could also suggest the antiquity of the site. Comparing percentages of flake tools from this site with those from two other Charles Culture sites—Hatzic Rock and Crescent Beach—similar relative proportions of flake tools appear (see Matson et al, 1991; Mason, 1994). This would suggest a Charles Component at DhRl 25 as well.

The other tools found include a small leaf-shaped basalt biface; a chipped nephrite adze preform; two small pebble cores, and several quartz crystal microliths. Though not diagnostic of any specific period or phase, all are found in other Charles Culture assemblages. The quartz crystal microliths are common at the nearby Scowlitz site, and may have been used in fish-processing as hafted cutting tools. This would provide further evidence to the site's use as a fish processing location.

#### Debitage

An interesting pattern emerges from the lithic debitage. Basalt and andesite dominate as raw material types, but as the deposits become older, more widely varied materials were used. Often these sources are higher quality stone tool-making materials, such as jasper and chert. Although the changes in raw material types over time cannot directly tell us anything of the age of the deposits, this use of a lesser grade material over time is an interesting trend which should be investigated further in future excavations at this site. This trend could be significant as a marker of relative age among archaeological sites in this region.

After analysis and cataloguing, all artifacts and matrix samples recovered from the site were returned to the Sto:lo.

#### Summary and Conclusions

That we were digging through midden deposits was verified by the stratigraphy and artifacts recovered from the excavations at Calamity Point. The large amount of fire-cracked rock in every layer, the high density of flake debitage recovered, the site's prominent location

overlooking the confluence of two major salmon rivers, and its proximity to the Scowlitz site, supports ethnographic accounts that Calamity point was once used as a seasonal fishing camp.

It seems highly possible that this area is an extension of the Scowlitz site. Based upon available evidence, the Spirit Camp site appears to extend further back into time than the neighbouring Scowlitz. The Scowlitz mounds date from between 1410±80 years BP to 1130±80 years BP, and the artifacts recovered from the mound-fill suggest a date around 2500 years BP. This estimate is supported by a carbon sample taken from a floor below the burial in Mound 23 which dates to 2200±160 BP (Blake et al, 1993). These dates suggest that Scowlitz may have been used from late Locarno Beach to late Marpole times.

With the indication of an older, Charles Culture phase present at Spirit Camp, the site's importance grows considerably. Such a long continuous occupation provides the opportunity for the study of *in situ* evolution of complex societies on the Northwest Coast.

There is still a great deal to be learned from this site, information we were unable to garner from one day of excavations. Our main question, that of antiquity, still remains unanswered. Although we have speculated on the age of the site from the visual evidence, it is necessary to have radiocarbon tests conducted to determine with any certainty the existence of a Charles culture component. Yet, this brief investigation has broadened our perspective of the area surrounding the Scowlitz site, and has added to the available data needed for further research.

It has also generated new and important hypotheses about the history of the Sto:lo people in this area. If indeed this is one huge village site as we suspect, its critical location on the Fraser would have made it a powerful village in the area, one that should be studied. The sacred territory of the Scowlitz mounds and the prosperous village adjacent to it would have made this location just as significant in prehistory as it appears to archaeologists today.

Following our excavations at Calamity Point, we learned from Gordon Mohs, Heritage Consultant for the Sto:lo, that because of the site's significance, the Sto:lo Nation halted construction of the pit house. As a result, future studies are now possible at this site which we believe will continue to

# NEWS ITEMS

## LITHIC WORKSHOP

This summer from August 14th to 25th, 1995 at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, there will be a workshop in lithic analysis. The workshop will be offered as Anthro 486 or Anthro 586 by the Department of Anthropology in collaboration with the Faculty of Extension. Students may receive graduate or undergraduate credit. Registration will be limited to 12.

The workshop will be instructed by Dr. Sheila Coulson from the Institutt for Arkeologi, Kunsthistorie og Numismatik at the University of Oslo. Topics covered will include experimental replication and refitting; illustration and documentation of refitting; sequences and production methods, identification of raw materials, applications to analysis.

Participants will be expected to work on their own collections from an excavated site. For further information, please contact:

Dr. David Lubell  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alta. T6G 2H4  
Fax: (403) 492-5273  
E-mail: David.Lubell@ualberta.ca

## ARTIFACT IDENTIFICATION

Again this year the U.B.C. Museum of Anthropology (MOA) will hold artifact identification clinics. Knowledgeable professional museum staff will identify and offer advice on objects brought in. In order to have staff on hand familiar with the area or type of object in question,

expand, not only in size, but in importance. A report outlining the findings from this excavation is on file with the Sto:lo Nation.

Sandra Morrison is in the first year of the M.A. programme at the University of British Columbia and is focusing on Fraser Valley archaeology. Heather Myles received her B.A. in anthropology at U.B.C. and is currently involved in contract archaeology. Brian Thom is completing his M.A. at U.B.C. and is presently working with the Sto:lo Nation conducting ethnographic research.

reservations will be necessary at the clinics this year. To find out about that curious object that you found, or to get more information about something that has been in the family for years, take the object and your stories to the MOA. Please note that the museum does not give financial appraisals.

There is no charge to attend the clinics. Plan a visit to the museum while you're there. On Tuesdays it's open until 9:00 pm and admission is free. The clinics are scheduled between 7:00 and 8:30 in room 217 at MOA on the fourth Tuesday of the month on January 24th, and March 28th. Call (604) 822-5087 to reserve a place.

## ARCHAEOLOGY INTERNSHIPS

The Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in south-western Colorado is offering a total of 10 research internships for advanced undergraduate and beginning graduate students this year. The interns accepted will include four in field excavation techniques, two in field survey techniques, four in laboratory techniques, and two in environmental archaeology dealing with archaeobotanical techniques.

Room and board is provided in the way of tents and meals at the Center's dining hall. A modest stipend is given interns to help defray other minor living expenses. Course credit for internships is not offered, but may be arranged through the student's home institution. A travel allowance of up to \$350 (US) is available.

Deadline for application is March 3,

1995. Further information and application forms may be requested from:

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center  
23390 County Road K  
Cortez, Colorado 81321 USA  
Tel. (303) 565-8975

## KEATLEY CREEK FILM

"The Life and Death of the Classic Lillooett Culture" is a 45-mm documentary film produced by Simon Fraser University. The film examines a complex hunter/gather/fisher culture on the Northwest Plateau of British Columbia, and investigates how a hierarchical society emerged defined by rich and poor classes, slavery, ownership of land, and other cultural usually identified with an "advanced" society.

Presented from an archaeological perspective, the film examines the sudden collapse of a series of prehistoric villages in the Northwest Plateau near Lillooet, B.C. Archaeologists are shown excavating, interpreting archaeological matrix, and analyzing faunal, botanical and lithic remains. The film demonstrates how Native traditions, subsistence practices and values are integral to understanding events and cultures of the past.

Although a hefty price at \$249, the film makes an excellent supplement to courses on Interior B.C. cultures. The film is available from New Vision Media Ltd., 12140 Horseshoe Way - #150, Richmond, B.C., V7A 4V3. Tel. 275-7910 or 1-800-667-1500; Fax 275-7910. Contact them for a preview, or for purchase information.

## Bibliography

Blake, Michael, Gary Coupland, and Brian Thom

1993. Dating the Scowlitz Site. *The Midden*. 25(1): 7-9.

Mason, Andrew

1994. *The Hatzic Rock Site: A Charles Culture Settlement*. M.A. Thesis, Department of Anthropology and Sociology, University of British Columbia: Vancouver

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Lisa Rankin et al

1991. *1989 and 1990 Crescent Beach Excavation, Final Report. The Origins of the Northwest Coast Ethnographic Pattern: The Place of the Locarno Beach Phase*. Report prepared for the SSHRC, Ottawa; Archaeology Branch, Victoria; and the Semiahmoo Band, White Rock.

Morrison, Sandra and Heather Myles

1992. The Sacred Mounds of Scowlitz. *The Midden*. 24(4): 2-4.

Thom, Brian

1991. Beads. In Matson et al, *1989 and 1990 Crescent Beach Excavations, Final Report. The Origins of the Northwest Coast Ethnographic Pattern: The Place of the Locarno Beach Phase*. Report prepared for the SSHRC, Ottawa; Archaeology Branch, Victoria; and the Semiahmoo Band, White Rock.

# FIELD NOTES

## ANTIQUUS

This year Antiquus Archaeological Consultants was very busy. They were involved in a total of 44 separate studies which included 27 impact assessments, nine overviews, four monitoring projects, two traditional Native land use (or "sustainability") studies, one excavation project, and a site inventory. Though three of these studies were carried out in the in the south-central Yukon Territory, most of them were undertaken in the interior of B.C.

Among 27 clients served were a variety of private government agencies: ten were related to forestry, four to hydro, three to mining, two to road construction, and one was a government funding agency. Seven additional projects were involved with land development or subdivisions.

In comparison to previous years, obvious trends were noted. There was a dramatic increase in forestry projects, more mining participation, a slight decline in the number of subdivision referrals, and a significant drop in MoTH [Ministry of Transportation and Highways] projects.

Most studies were commissioned by the forest industry, and involved impact assessments for timber harvesting blocks and related access roads in the Quesnel, Williams Lake, Kamloops, and Lillooet Forest Districts. So far, these studies indicate that timber harvesting and road construction in this area generally tend to be less a threat to archaeological sites than other types of development. Harvesting blocks and roads often correspond with areas of low or low-medium site potential. Fortunately, harvesting blocks and roads can usually be relocated to avoid sites, provided that the sites are identified in advance of major activity that might alter the land. To date, the few sites that have been identified are small, low-to-medium density lithic scatters, and/or historic residential or activity sites beside streams, ponds and lakes. The relative ages of these sites remain to be determined.

The number of forestry contracts this year has significantly increased Antiquus' annual work load, and has allowed them to retain two more full-time people. It appears that this trend of greater participation by the forest industry will continue for the next few years. Beyond question, this will enhance our knowledge about middle and upland prehistoric sites. It will provide information about their cultures that will be of interest to the First Nations, and ensure proper management of sites that would other-

wise be lost to land-altering development. Employment potential will be increased for persons pursuing heritage-related careers. Studies conducted for land development included impact assessments of large subdivisions and industrial parks, and monitoring of construction activities associated with road construction and landscaping.

This year was significant in that First Nations organisations and individuals all over the province have been actively participating in the process of identifying, recording and managing archaeological resources within their respective claimed traditional territories. Antiquus alone worked with governments and members of the Alkali Lake, Bonaparte, Boston Bar, Chawathil, Skeetchestn, Soda Creek, Lytton, Nazko, Pavilion and Williams Lake bands. Their patience, interest, co-operation and enthusiasm make them a welcome addition to any archaeological project.

## PARKS CANADA

Parks Canada in B.C. is under the umbrella of the Alberta Regional Office in Calgary, directed by Marty Magne. 1994 saw a number of Parks Canada's archaeological staff conducting field work in B.C. Among them Daryl Fedje and Ian Sumpter spent approximately four months carrying out a number of impact assessments, CRM work, inventory and excavations at Gwaii Haida Heritage Site/Native Park Reserve in the Queen Charlotte Islands, and at the Pacific Rim National Park on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The inventory and excavation components of the Gwaii Haanas archaeological project were successful largely due to the direction and assistance given by Al Mackie of Millennia Research. This work represented a continuation of collaborative training programmes in cultural resource protection and stewardship between Parks Canada and two First Nations groups—the Haida (Skidegate) and the Ditidaht. (See *Ventures*, page 5)

## CACHE CREEK

Two of the more extensive and interesting forestry-related impact assessments conducted by Antiquus were in the Pavilion Creek and Maiden Creek drainages near Cache Creek. Both studies succeeded in identifying about 20 sites in conflict with proposed timber harvesting plans.

Relatively high site density in the

Pavilion Creek drainage is related to a major Native route along this pass. Furthermore, Maiden Creek contains an inexhaustive supply of high quality basalt which was sought for flaking for thousands of years.

## STEIN RIVER

Detailed mitigative excavations were undertaken by Antiquus Archaeological Consultants during a two-week period at site EbRj 3 at the mouth of the Stein River near Lytton. A portion of the site will be impacted by the construction of a booster station for a water transmission line.

Twenty 1-metre square excavation units secured a representative sample of information from the impact zone. The excavations revealed that this part of the site contains a well-represented amalgam of stratified late prehistoric period (ca. 3500 to 200 BP) occupations. The samples contained extraordinarily high densities of lithic waste, a number of stone tools, bone and antler items, and well-preserved faunal and floral materials.

The sample of data secured strongly indicates that this part of the site functioned as a short-term seasonal encampment, primarily as a focus for salmon processing and drying. Detailed results of this study will be available early in the new year.

## HAT CREEK RANCH

An interesting site inventory was conducted at the Hat Creek Ranch near Cache Creek on behalf of B.C. Heritage Trust and the Bonaparte Indian Band. The two-week study involved a number of Antiquus personnel and several members of the Bonaparte Band.

A large portion of the ranch property was systematically inspected for archaeological sites. Sixteen new sites were identified and recorded, bringing the total of sites at the Hat Creek Ranch to nineteen. Lithic scatters are the most common site-type, and contain very high densities of lithic waste. Projectile points and bifacial knives are the most common form of tool types associated with most of these sites.

Diagnostic point types suggest that the sites were occupied during the Late Prehistoric Period (ca. 3500 to 200 BP), notably the Plateau Horizon (2400-1200 BP). Other interesting sites include a single small pithouse that probably also dates to the Plateau Horizon, and an historic site rumoured to have been the location of an early 1800s Hudsons Bay Company post.

# CONFERENCES

## 1995

- January 4-8      **S H A, Society for Historical Archaeology, 28th Annual Meeting**  
J.W. Marriot Hotel, WASHINGTON, D.C.  
**Contact:** Henry M. Miller, Historic St. Mary's City, P.O. Box 39, St. Mary's City,  
Maryland, USA 20686. Tel. (301) 862-0974; Fax (301) 862-0968.
- March 23-25      **NWAC, Northwest Anthropological Conference, 48th Annual**  
**"A Wayne Suttles Celebration"**  
PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY, Portland, Oregon  
**Contact:** Kenneth M. Ames, NWAC Co-chair, Department of Anthropology,  
Portland State University, Portland, OR 97207 USA
- April 26-30      **HIDDEN DIMENSIONS: The Cultural Significance of Wetlands Archaeology**  
UBC MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY, Vancouver, B.C.  
**Further info:** Kathryn Bernick or Ann Stevenson, UBC Museum of Anthropology,  
6393 N.W. Marine Dr., Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z2. Tel. (604) 822-6530; Fax (604)  
822-2974; E-mail: stevenso@unixg.ubc.ca
- May 3-6      **C A A, Canadian Archaeological Association, 28th Annual Meeting**  
Coast Capri Hotel, KELOWNA, B.C.  
**Contact:** Diana E. French, Conference Chair  
Department of Anthropology/Sociology, Okanagan University College, 333 College  
Way, Kelowna, B.C. V1V 1V7.  
Tel. (604) 762-5445, local 7363; Fax (604) 470-6001
- May 3-7      **S A A, Society for American Archaeology, 60th Annual Meeting**  
Hilton Hotel, MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota  
**Contact:** Paul E. Minnas, Department of Anthropology, University of Oklahoma,  
Norman, Oklahoma 73019. Tel. (405) 325-2519; Fax (405) 325-3261; E-mail:  
aa6613@uokmvs.a.backbone.uoknor.edu

## EXHIBITS

- through June  
1995      **Frog Constellation**  
*UBC Museum of Anthropology, the Great Hall*  
Large cedar sculpture by Haida artist, Jim Hart, symbolises a Haida origin story.
- March 1995      **From under the Delta: Wet-Site Archaeology in British Columbia's Lower Mainland**  
*UBC Museum of Anthropology, Gallery 9; Vancouver*  
Features rare preserved wood and bark objects dating from the past 4600 years; illustrates unique  
information about traditional fishing, woodworking, basketry and cordage technologies; explores  
cultural resource management issues.
- April, 1995      **Written in the Earth: Coast Salish Art**  
*UBC Museum of Anthropology, Gallery 10; Vancouver*  
Presents Northwest Coast art motifs, carving styles and principles of design dating back 3500  
years through examples of antler, stone and wood carvings from archaeological sites in Coast  
Salish territory, as well as work of contemporary Musqueam, Sto:lo and Saanich artists.

 **THE MIDDEN**

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BENTALL STATION  
VANCOUVER, B.C.  
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