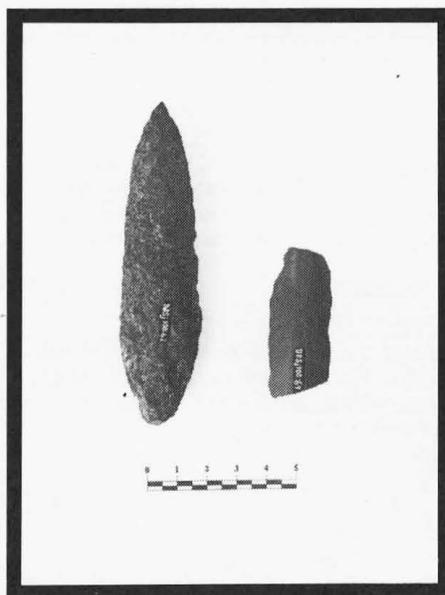


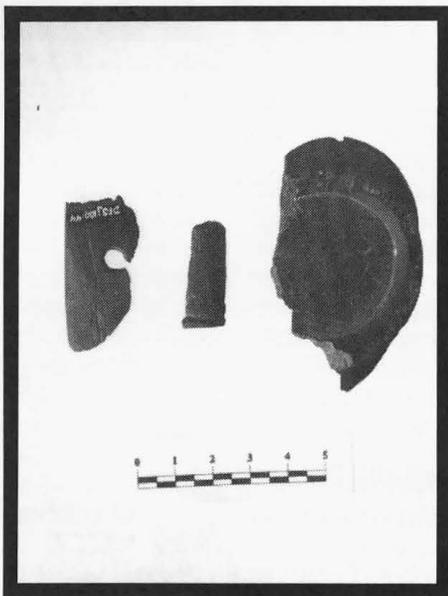
## VANCOUVER ISLAND'S WEST COAST REVEALS SIGNIFICANT DISCOVERIES



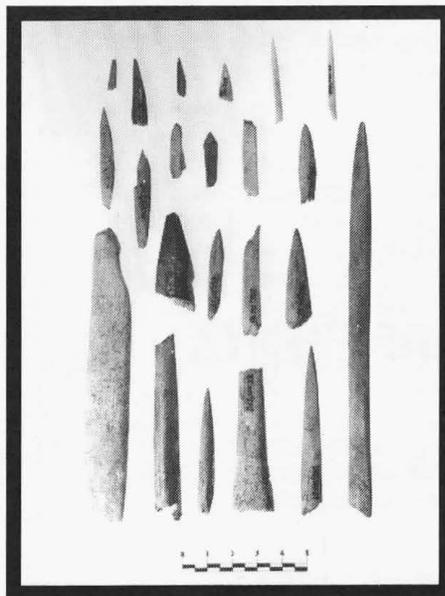
*Dfsj 100,  
cobble chopper*



*Dfsj 100,  
chipped (L) and  
ground slate (R)  
projectile points.*



*Dfsj 100,  
labret (R), ground  
slate fragment (L),  
and ground stone  
object (M).*



*Dfsj 100,  
bone artifacts.*

# THE MIDDEN

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Contributions on subjects germane to B.C. archaeology are  
welcomed: maximum length 1500 words, no footnotes and only a  
brief bibliography (if required at all). Guidelines are available.

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Helmi Braches

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### A.S.B.C. DIARY.

- April 8: Dr. David Burley  
Recent work on Tonga
- May 13: TBA
- June 10: Annual General Meeting

### FRONT COVER:

Artifacts recovered during the 1991 excavation of the  
Little Beach Site, Ucluelet, B.C.

Photo Credit: Karen Preckel. See article on page 2.

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR . . .

**Y**OU WILL NOTICE A FRESH, NEW LOOK to the old, familiar *Midden*. The publication is now being produced directly on a Macintosh computer (thanks to Yvon Lantaigne), bypassing the tedious typesetting and paste-up process which took so much of our time and energies in the past. This should make things easier for us, and get *The Midden* out to you on time.

This issue of *The Midden* and the next (which should bring our "bi-monthly" publication back on schedule in April) will focus on the west coast of Vancouver Island and recent developments arising there. Then, in our final, mid-June issue before the summer hiatus, we will move to the inner, east coast of the Island, including the Gulf Islands.

We invite — indeed, welcome — articles pertaining to this area. Articles should not exceed 1500 words (i.e., 6-7 pages, double-spaced). Illustrations are encouraged. We would prefer that articles accepted for publication be on disk, WordPerfect preferred, but other pro-

grams can be accommodated. Submissions for June must be received by May 1st at the latest. Guidelines are available.

June will put an end to a hectic year of suddenly having to balance publication of four issues of *The Midden* with a busy schedule. After the summer, plans are to follow B.C. archaeology through the Gulf Islands, the lower mainland, the Fraser River valley and canyon, and the Interior, returning to the coast as archaeological investigations progress and reveal interesting developments in B.C. archaeology, and the Northwest Coast in particular. We are hoping to receive many submissions over the summer to help give direction to *The Midden's* itinerary next year. Submissions should be addressed to:

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## CONSTRUCTION UNEARTHS RENEWED INTEREST IN NUU-CHAH-NULTH CULTURAL ORIGINS

**R**OUTINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING of construction activities on what was thought to be a severely disturbed site on the outside coast of Ucluth Peninsula at Ucluelet has given rise to renewed interest concerning the origins of Nuu-chah-nulth culture. Archaeological investigations of the Ucluelet Little Beach site by Arcas Consulting Archaeologists encountered massive, intact, buried shell midden deposits yielding both a burial complex and artifact assemblage unlike those presently reported for the Nuu-chah-nulth West Coast Culture Type.

The assemblages resemble Salishan Strait of Georgia cultural forms previously reported by Alan McMillan and Denis St. Claire in 1982 for the Shoemaker Bay site at the head of Alberni Inlet. Specific elements include midden burials, boulder cairn burials, and labrets, as well as bifacial chipped and ground slate industries dating to 4000 years B.P.

The question of a Salishan presence on Vancouver Island's west coast, or a shared ancestral cultural form to both the Salishan and Nuu-chah-nulth Traditions, is once again being posed. The latter interpretation resurrects earlier spec-

ulations by Charles E. Borden and Philip Drucker in the 1950s of an older, shared basal culture for the beginnings of the Locarno Culture Type on the south coast.

In recognition of the site's importance, the Archaeology Branch is working with the local native community in seeking a long-term management strategy for the Ucluelet Little Beach Site.

STEVEN ACHESON

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**Steven Acheson is a Project Officer with the Archaeology Branch, Government of British Columbia.**

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## LITTLE BEACH SITE, UCLUELET, B.C.

# 1991 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

By Richard P. Brolly

Figures by Karen Preckel and Rick Howard

**D**URING SEPTEMBER OF 1991, Arcas Consulting Archaeologists Ltd (Arcas Ltd) conducted an archaeological test excavation at the Little Beach site (Dfsj 100) in the village of Ucluelet, B.C.

During land clearing for construction of a new motel-resort complex in 1990, shell midden deposits with scattered human remains were reported to the Archaeology Branch. The Branch ordered an archaeological impact assessment by Diana French and Ann McMurdo; later monitoring of engineering tests was carried out by Monty Mitchell for I.R. Wilson Consultants Ltd.

These investigations determined that a significant midden containing intact shell midden deposits and possible human interments existed at Little Beach. Arcas Ltd was contracted by the Archaeology Branch to conduct a limited salvage excavation at the site to recover artifactual, environmental, and geological information before destruction by the resort development. The site considerably surpassed expectations, and the proposed construction has been put "on hold" by the Archaeology Branch pending a decision for future management of the site.

The excavation commenced on 13 September with a crew of 12, and continued through 28 September 1991. Four 2-metre wide trenches were machine-excavated to non-cultural beach sediments, then four judgements-ally selected, 1-metre square

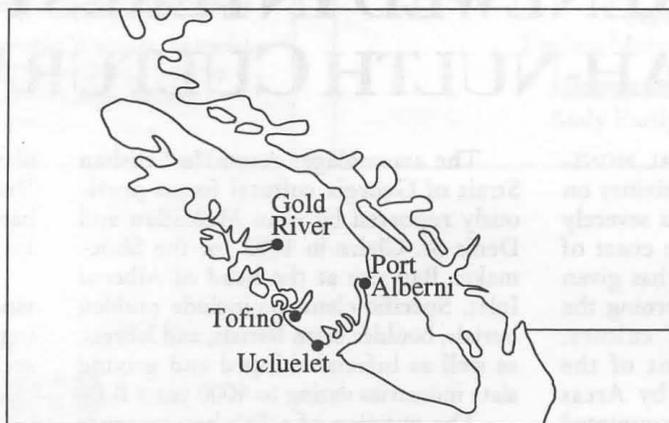
excavation units were dug by natural stratigraphic layers, with the matrix water-screened to recover artifacts and faunal remains (see site plan on page 3).

Non-cultural, or "sterile", sediments were reached in most of the trench excavations. Numerous human interments were encountered in Trench II and the

eastern half of Trench III. Mechanized excavation was halted as soon as human remains were identified, but basal material was reached in the areas where no burials were found. Burials were too abundant in Trench IV for any of this trench to reach sterile strata.

Upon completion of the trenching, we had two cross-sections of the midden at the south and north ends of the site, perpendicular to the beach and one north-south length-wise section. The midden was located on the higher of two beach terraces at the head of the bay. A few small patches of midden matrix discontinuously scattered around the lower terrace appeared to represent transitory use of Little Beach after abandonment of the midden.

Profiles of the trench walls were used to prepare a geoarchaeological model of the midden and its relation to past sea levels. Sea levels on the coast of British Columbia have fluctuated since the end of the Ice Age. Models developed by geo-



morphologists for the west coast of Vancouver Island indicate that the sea was lower than present immediately after glacial retreat between 14,000 and 10,000 BP, then rose to a point about six-metres above present by 7,000 BP. After a period of stability (called a *stillstand*), sea levels began to drop around 4,000 BP

toward the modern elevation, with another stillstand occurring about 2,200 BP. The contact between the lowest midden layers and the original beach sediments at Little Beach was six-metres above modern sea level, indicating that the midden was originally occupied after sea levels had begun to drop from the 7000-4000 BP stillstand. Only minor

patches of cultural materials were deposited on the lower terrace which was exposed after the 2,200 BP stillstand, indicating abandonment of the midden by that time.

Cultural deposits on the second terrace were overlaid by 50 to 100cm of non-cultural forest soil

and humus, again suggesting that the midden had been abandoned for a long time. Cultural deposits at the site were distinguished by interlayered beds of nearly pure shell, shell mixed with humus, and nearly pure humus. An unusual feature of the shelly layers was that 90% or more of all the shell was the giant mussel (*Mytilus californianus*) char-

acteristic of the outermost, exposed rocky coast. However, some of the shell may not have been of cultural origin, for in high-energy marine environments wave action alone sometimes concentrates huge deposits of dead shellfish in a "death assemblage" known as a *thanatocoenose*.

Although only a preliminary analysis of the bony faunal remains from the site has been completed, whale bone was a highly visible compo-

ment of the vertebrate fauna in every stratigraphic layer investigated. Though the bones have not yet been identified as to genus or species, they are from large specimens.

Numerous intact and well-preserved human burials from the midden were among the most significant discoveries

**Numerous intact and well-preserved human burials . . . were among the most significant discoveries**



made at Little Beach in 1991. Nineteen definite burials and six possible burial features were observed in or adjacent to the trenches. No burials were encountered in the excavation units. At the request of the Ucluelet Indian Band, none of the exposed interments were excavated, but disturbed human remains were collected for future analysis and dating (also at the request of the Band). A preliminary review indicates that both sexes and all ages from infants to old adults are represented. Several skeletal elements exhibit evidence of disease, including a possible case of tuberculosis.

Although burials in shell middens on the west coast of Vancouver Island are unusual, more surprising were several burials associated with cairns of rounded boulders. Some burials were associated with concentrations of unmodified whale bone, while others contained both boulders and whale bone. Boulder cairn burials were discovered at the Shoemaker Bay site in Port Alberni by McMillan and St. Claire in the early 1970s, but burials associated with whale bone have not been reported from any other British Columbia archaeological sites as far as we can learn.

Only 68 artifacts were recovered during the 1991 excavations. Forty-one were collected in the excavation units, and the remaining 27 were salvaged during trenching operations. Slightly over half of the artifacts were manufactured from stone, using grinding and/or pecking (25) and chipping (11). Bone artifacts (28), shell artifacts (3), and antler artifacts (1) complete the collection. Outstanding tools in the assemblage include a large leaf-shaped projectile point, a fragmentary hexagonal ground

slate point, a fragmentary argillite labret, a ground slate knife fragment, and a cobble chopper (see front cover photos).

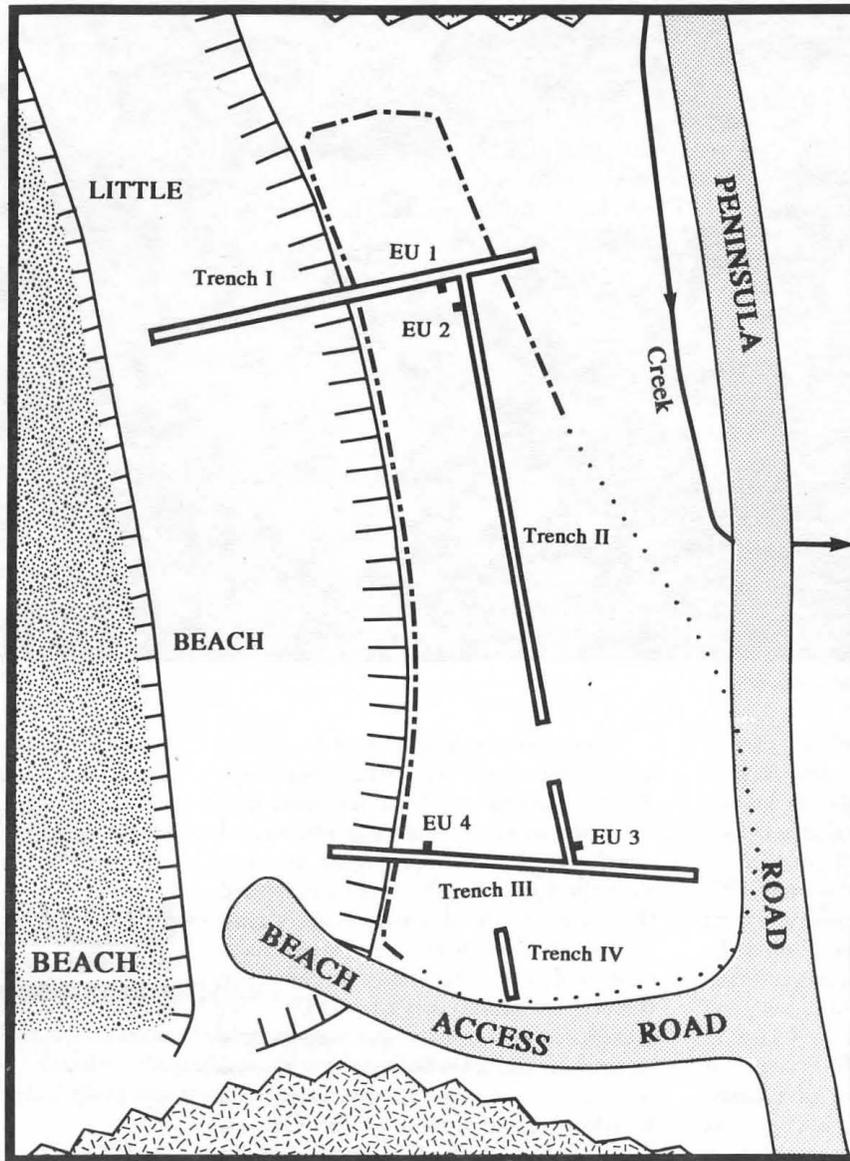
Despite this small assemblage, some interesting comparisons can be made with other sites on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The relative abundance of stone artifacts generally, and chipped stone specifically, is very unusual for sites on the outer coast. Only

Fraser Delta archaeological sequence, our materials seem most similar to the 3300-2350 BP Locarno Beach Culture Type, although the Little Beach midden dates earlier than a "typical" Locarno assemblage.

Two samples of charcoal from or near the base of the cultural deposits were radiocarbon dated at  $4000 \pm 170$  BP and  $4000 \pm 90$  BP. A human bone-collagen date of  $3310 \pm 70$  BP was obtained from a boulder cairn burial very near the top of the midden deposits, and a date of  $2510 \pm 60$  BP was obtained from organic sediment associated with a transitory occupation of the site after the midden was abandoned. The dates suggested by the geoarchaeological model very closely matched the four radiocarbon dates, confirming the usefulness of sea level curves in relative dating of archaeological sites on Vancouver Island's west coast.

With our small sample of artifacts and incompletely-analyzed human and faunal collections, interpretation is severely constrained with respect to better-known sites on Vancouver Island. In terms of dating, the Little Beach site is contemporary with the Shoemaker Bay site at Port Alberni, and Yuquot at Nootka Sound. The numerous burials, some with boulder

cairns and/or whale bone, are unique for excavated sites on the outer west coast (however, unexcavated midden burials are still present at Ittatsoo in Ucluelet Harbour and Opitsat on Meares Island in Clayoquot Sound). The existence of chipped stone tools, labrets, and ground slate knives and points may not be unique to archaeological sites on the west coast,



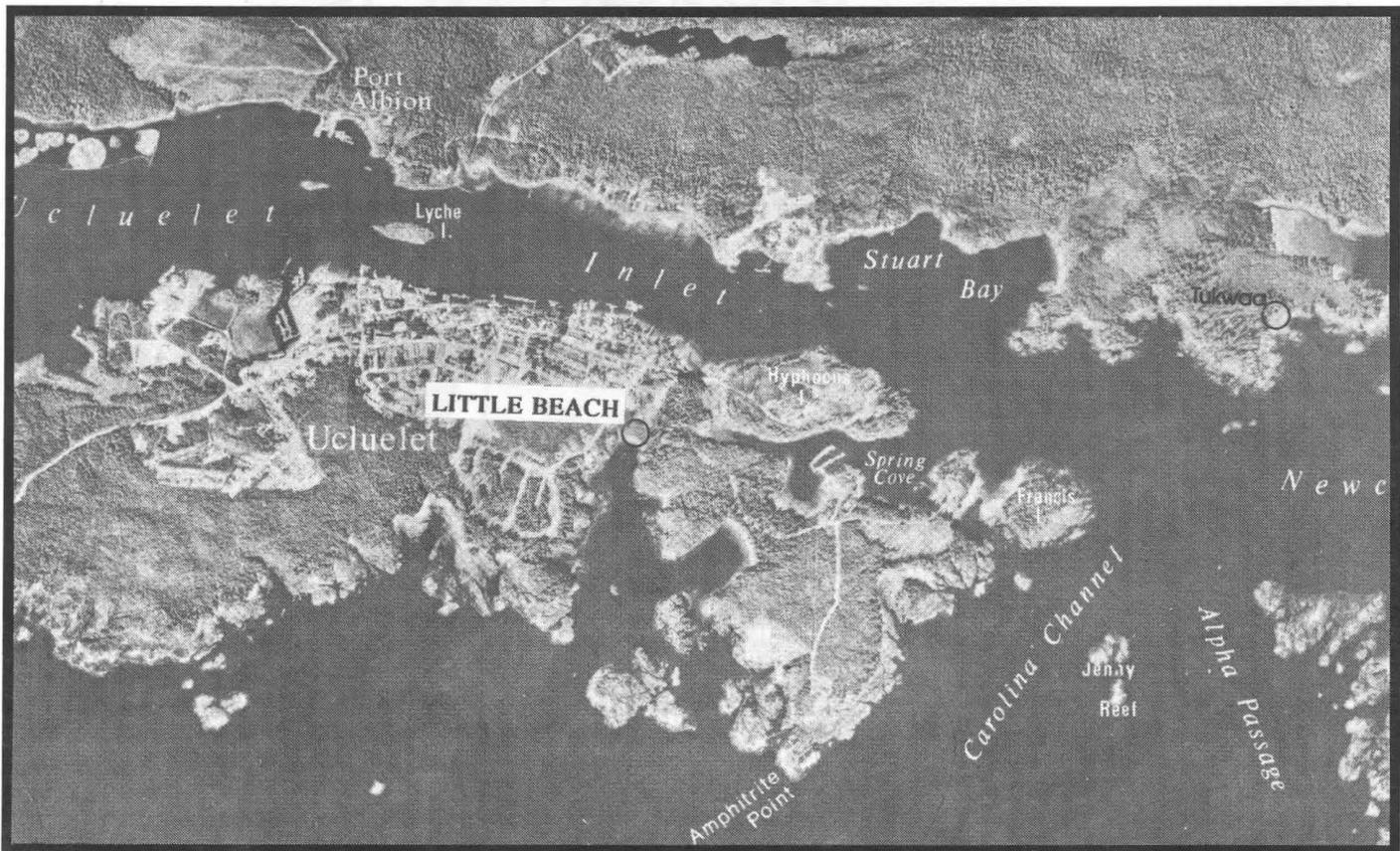
Site Plan, Little Beach (DfSj 100)

six chipped stone artifacts are reported from the 18 sites investigated in Hesquiat Harbour by the Royal British Columbia Museum during the 1970s. Very few chipped stone artifacts were reported from the excavations at Yuquot in Nootka Sound, Chesterman Beach near Tofino, or in Barkley Sound. However, chipped stone and ground slate points are quite characteristic of the Shoemaker Bay site. In terms of the

Continued on page 4

# LITTLE BEACH SITE

Continued from page 3



Ucluth Peninsula in 1981 (approx. 1:25,000).

but these artifacts are exceedingly rare in excavations, except at Shoemaker Bay.

Salishan-speaking people are known to have inhabited the Alberni area before being forcibly assimilated into Nuuchahnulth culture during the early 19th century. Midden burials and artifacts uncharacteristic of traditional Nuuchahnulth archaeological assemblages (such as those from Yuquot or Hesquiat Harbour) led McMillan and St. Claire to postulate in the 1970s that the Shoemaker Bay site was representative of a Coast Salish occupation in what is currently regarded as Nuuchahnulth territory.

Many features of the Little Beach site are reminiscent of the coeval Shoemaker Bay site. It may yet be established that the Coast Salish — or people who shared a technological and ideological ancestry with the Coast Salish — once inhabited the outer coast of Vancouver Island. Perhaps the ethnographic Nuuchahnulth culture pattern was forced upon the native inhabitants of the Ucluelet locality by Wakashan-speaking people expanding southwards from the Nootka Sound area, similar to the postulated Kwakiutl expansion onto the Central Coast of British Columbia. More

research needs to be undertaken at Little Beach, and other contemporaneous sites on the West Coast, before such far-reaching hypotheses can be supported by empirical data.

---

**Richard Brolly (BA, S.F.U. 1977),  
Rick Howard (BA, S.F.U. 1987) and Karen  
Preckel (BA, S.F.U. 1988) are presently  
employed by Arcas Consulting Archaeologists.**

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# NEW PUBLICATIONS

## **The Archaeology Handbook: A Field Manual and Resource Guide**

by BILL MCMILLON

John Wiley & Sons: New York, 1991

259 pp, illus, index, bibl. \$21.95 (paper)

An up-to-date, comprehensive "how-to" and "where-to" guide written for amateur archaeologists and archaeology volunteers. Includes archaeological technology, excavation methods, site locations, tools, archaeology and the law; resource section lists field schools, sites, organizations, museums, government agencies, and an extensive bibliography.

## **Prehistory of the Oregon Coast**

by R. LEE LYMAN

Academic Press: San Diego, CA, 1991

391 pp, appendices, refs, index. US\$ 49.95

Analyses the artifacts and faunal remains of three representative sites on the southern Northwest Coast. Presents and tests a model of the evolution of cultural adaptational strategies.

## **People of the Wetlands**

by BRYONY and JOHN COLES

Northwest Coast People and Places series, 106

Thames & Hudson: New York, 1989

# EXHIBITIONS

## **U.B.C. MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY**

February 5 to  
May 31

### **A Fish to Cure Humanity.**

A demonstration of the traditions associated with the fishing of eulachon, and technology used to render its oil which was traded along vast routes known as the Grease Trail.

March 4 to  
May 24

### **Ancient Cloth . . . Ancient Code?**

Looks at cloth in ancient Peruvian societies as an abstract model for organizing and recording information.

# AN INTERFACE OF ETHNOGRAPHY AND ARCHAEOLOGY ON VANCOUVER ISLAND

By Denis E. St. Claire

**D**URING TWO SEASONS OF EXCAVATIONS AT THE SHOEMAKER BAY SITE IN Port Alberni (1973-74) and a subsequent summer of archaeological survey work in the Barkley Sound-Alberni Inlet area (co-directed with Alan McMillan), I became aware of the rich potential of this area for further archaeological investigations. Close co-operation and frequent contact with the two Port Alberni bands, the Tseshaht and Opetchesaht, during the Shoemaker Bay Project laid the basis for a close and highly valued friendship with the late Tseshaht hereditary chief Adam Shewish and his wife Margaret. Conversations with the Shewishes and Adam's aunt, Mabel Taylor, hinted at the rich and varied oral traditions that continued to exist among the Native people of the area.

The extensive data recorded by early writers such as Sproat, Blenkinsop, Boas and Sapir stimulated my interest further. Sapir's voluminous unpublished field notes and conversations with the Shewish family made it quite clear that the recent history of the indigenous people of the Barkley Sound-Alberni Valley area involved far-reaching changes of considerable consequence. Archaeologically, this posed some complex and important questions that needed to be resolved prior to any further excavations in the area. Here was a golden opportunity to collect ethnographic data that would complement and enhance further archaeological investigations.

Often archaeological projects had been site-specific with little reference to pertinent ethnographic data. However, any site is a single segment of a complex of sites that can accurately reflect a people's material culture only when taken together as a whole. If one could collect data pertaining to territorial limits, as well as place names, site use and seasonal movements, then specific sites could be placed in their proper context and more effective research designs could be established before excavations began.

There are limits to such an areal approach, since older sites can not be assumed to be part of the known ethnographic pattern for a specific area. Site use in successive complexes of sites may

change through time due to environmental or cultural change, with individual sites revealing only those portions of a people's tool kit, diet, etc. that reflect that specific site's use. Awareness of a site's role in the greater context of an annual round of seasonal resource exploitation might be beneficial to more thoroughly understand a site.

In 1971 the Hesquiat Project, a co-operative venture between the Hesquiat people and the Royal British Columbia Provincial Museum, began an inventory of sites

within Hesquiat traditional territory. Test excavations of several midden and burial cave sites were also made along with a special effort to record the extensive knowledge of Hesquiat elders. The project allowed and explored an integration of archaeological data, ethnographic information, and the oral traditions of the Hesquiat people. Each of these data sets complemented the others and increased the total worth.

With the challenge of the largely untapped potential of the Barkley Sound-Alberni Valley area, I focused on recording the traditional knowledge of the elders living in the area before pursuing further archaeological excavations. No attempt was made to formulate a general ethnography of the area, rather, only information specifically useful to archaeology was pursued.

From 1976 to 1985 intensive inter-

views were conducted with elders from the Tseshaht, Opetchesaht, Ohiaht, Uchucklesaht, Ucluelet, and Toquaht bands. The primary focus was to gather data that would present a regional overview of place names, site use, group composition, territorial boundaries and changes that may have occurred through time. My intention was to provide an ethnographic and ethnohistorical context for the excavated materials from Shoemaker Bay and the archaeological resources observed during surveys. Without such contextual data verifiable research models and archaeological reconstructions could not be adequately formulated.

For a number of years this work was done independently but in 1981-83 my involvement in the Pacific Rim Park Project (directed by Jim Haggarty and Richard Inglis) gave this work considerable impetus. In 1984-85 the Ohiaht Ethno-Archaeology Project (directed by A. Mackie and L. Achison) provided the opportunity to interview a number of additional informants.

**... at least five  
autonomous groups  
had existed within the  
Broken Group Islands  
alone.**



Bert Mack, hereditary chief of the Toquaht, discusses an artifact found at the village of Mocoah with Denis St. Claire.

ALAN MCMILLAN

Initial work with Tseshaht elders allowed compilation of a detailed description of a seasonal round of movement adapted to exploiting the diverse resource-base of traditional Tseshaht territory. The wide sweep of this territory extended through a broad spectrum of ecological niches from the exposed outer islands of the Broken Group archipelago to the sheltered and salmon-rich waters of the Somass river system at the end of Alberni Inlet. The initial stage of the Pacific Rim Project consisted of a systematic survey of the Broken Group Islands in order to produce a detailed inventory of the area's archaeological resources.

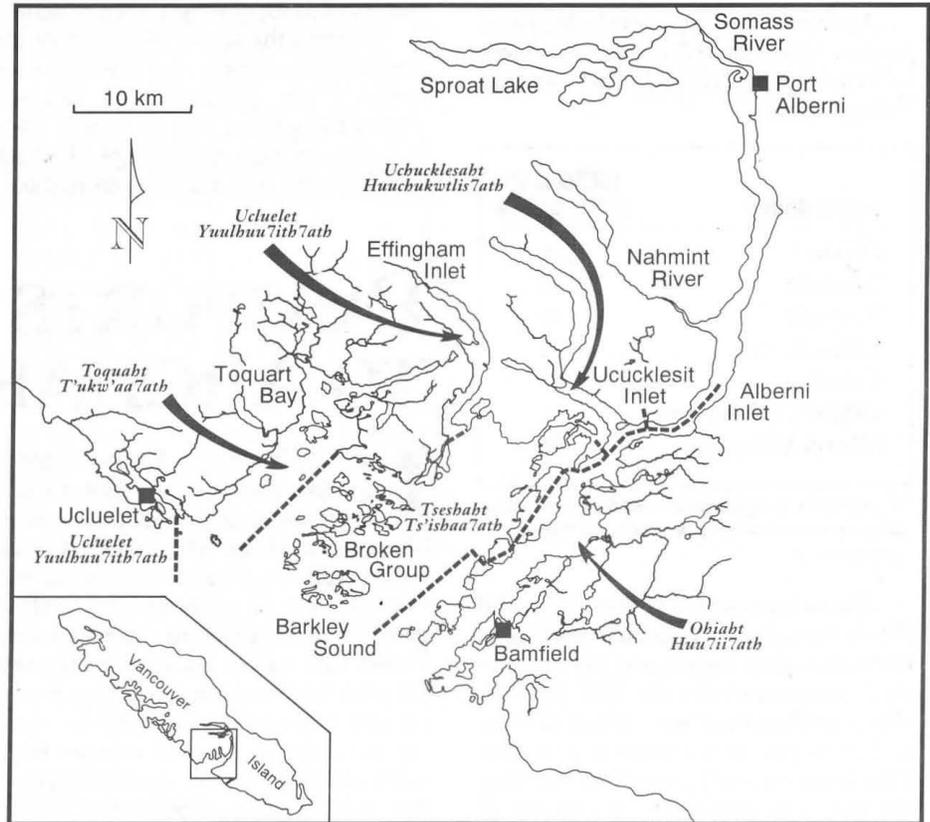
According to the data I had assembled from informant interviews, this island group was used only during spring and summer. However, the survey recorded a surprising number of large midden sites. It is unlikely that only one tribal group could account for the considerable depth of cultural deposits, or occupy so many large village sites. The high frequency of these sites in a fairly small area with similar environments does not fit the generally accepted habitation model for the Nuuchahnulth people: an annual cycle of movement between a major summer village on the coast, and a fall-winter village in sheltered areas — often at the head of inlets. Instead, this large number of village sites seems to indicate the former presence of a number of separate groups.

Examination of the data collected by early ethnographers, particularly Blenkinsop and Sapir, and conversations with contemporary elders presented an overall picture more in tune with the archaeological evidence. Sapir's data collected at the beginning of the century clearly indicated that in late precontact times and the early years of the historic period, a number of other autonomous groups occupied portions of the Tseshaht's widespread territory. Sapir's information was echoed in the data I collected from contemporary elders who confirmed important aspects of the earlier information, and added intriguing new details.

A new picture emerged of an earlier socio-political landscape quite different from that documented in the nineteenth century. It appeared that at least five autonomous groups had existed within the Broken Group islands alone. Evidence for several other nearby groups was also apparent. Thus, the large Tseshaht territory of the nineteenth century for which such precise and detailed seasonal movement and resource

exploitation data had been collected was, in reality, but a recent veneer over a much longer standing tradition of many more independent groups each with their own small, more restricted territories. The Tseshaht, one of the original small groups had come to possess a much larger territory through a rapid series of major events (including traumatic population decline as a result of deadly exotic diseases and new, more lethal forms of warfare), absorbing the remnants of many formerly autonomous groups.

erable time lapse since the Kiix7in7ath had been an independent group, oral traditions lacked detailed information. However, considerable data recorded from other elders about the Ohiacht in general added to the material obtained from Robert Sport and Sapir's earlier data. Previously unrecorded archaeological sites were located and mapped. Although the initial goals of the Ohiacht Ethno-Archaeological Project were not entirely obtainable, valuable data was nevertheless collected.



The study area, showing place names mentioned in the text and 19th century Barkley Sound territories.

The Ohiacht Ethno-Archaeology Project was an attempt to bring together a body of archaeological and ethnographic data pertaining to a discrete and identifiable Nuuchahnulth group, the Kiix7in7ath, which had ceased to exist as an autonomous entity long ago, having amalgamated with several others to form what are known today as the Ohiacht. Sapir's field notes contained considerable references to them and described their territory. Previously I had worked with Ohiacht elder, Robert Sport, and recorded numerous place names with associated site use data. As the project progressed, it became apparent that the Kiix7in7ath territorial boundaries, as recorded by Sapir, left a number of unanswered questions making their precise limits uncertain. Because of the consid-

Although the territory of the Toquaht Band along the western shore of Barkley Sound is outside of the Pacific Rim Park boundary, the Pacific Rim Park Project provided an opportunity to work with Toquaht elders. This project presented the ideal opportunity to work in a well-defined tribal territory which had changed very little for a considerable time. Unlike other tribal groups in the general area, little had been recorded by early ethnographers about this once powerful and dominant people.

The lack of numerous large midden sites as found in other areas of Barkley Sound, as well as no mention of amalgamation in their oral traditions, led to speculation that the last several centuries

*Continued on page 8*

# ETHNOGRAPHY

Continued from page 7

of Toquaht history might be different from that of their Barkley Sound neighbours. These intriguing anomalies resulted in the Toquaht Archaeological Project which is presently underway under the direction of this author and Alan McMillan, and in co-operation with the Toquaht Band.

As a result of the previously described projects a total of 547 place names were collected for the Barkley Sound - Alberni Valley region.

TRIBAL GROUP	NUMBER OF PLACE NAMES
Ohiaht	176
Tsashaht	139
Toquaht	78
Uchucklesaht	38
Uchuelet	33
Offshore fishing banks	7
Alberni Valley and Inlet*	96

\*A geographic designation is used here since many groups possessed varying portions of this area at various times.

Elders interviewed in the 1970's and 1980's were far more familiar with tribal territories, place names, site use and seasonal movements for the 19th century, after significant and widespread changes had occurred to traditional patterns. This is not to imply, however, that they did not have important knowledge of earlier times. Precise and specific information was collected to serve as a valuable counterpoint to the incomplete picture presented by the data collected by early ethnographers.

Ethnographic data particularly relevant to archaeology is now available for the Barkley Sound region. This information, as well as that of the Hesquiat Project and more recent work in Clayoquot Sound and the Nitinaht area, provides an impressive corpus of data for the central west coast of Vancouver Island. Archaeologists will increasingly draw upon these data as opportunities for excavations present themselves.

**Denis St. Claire (BA, U. of Victoria) has been working in archaeology on the Northwest Coast for 23 years. He currently teaches French, History and Native Studies at Esquimalt Secondary School, Victoria, B.C.**

## THE MYSTERY GOES ON

LAST OCTOBER'S ISSUE OF *THE Midden* described a burial found by I.R. Wilson Consultants at DfRu 74 on Galiano Island with a clay-lined depression containing vertical sandstone slabs and a pattern of large and small post-moulds suggesting a large structure.

Whereas the upper 30-40 cm of the previous excavation had exposed such artifacts as ground slate knives, Triangular points, and numerous bone bi-points (a high percentage of which were burned). Seven units excavated only

10 metres away exposed quite a different deposit. Seventy cm down on top of bedrock, evidence of a possible Locarno component was suggested by a T-girdled sinker stone as well as several other artifacts representative of that period. No structural remains were evident here, only smaller postholes.

Skeletal analysis has since shown the previously found burial to be a female, about 20-30 years of age with curious cut marks across the legs.

## PASSPORTS TO ARCHAEOLOGY

THE U.S. NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE is offering what sounds like an exciting volunteer programme called "Passport in Time" (P.I.T.). First offered in 1988 the programme was so successful that it expanded to include projects in 18 different states. Gordon Peters, who started P.I.T., terms the programme "cerebral recreation"—a hands-on environmental education for those not wanting the same old summer travel experience. P.I.T. provides the opportunity for the general public to become involved with heritage resource conservation through volunteer work. The programme provides the projects, supervisors and accommodation (from campsites to more solid lodging), while the volunteers supply the labour and enthusiasm. Projects include archaeological excavations, as well as opportunities to work on prehistoric and historic conservation, such as historic building reconstruction or the cataloguing of historic photographs.

Canada also offers a similar, though less geographically broad programme, called "Passports to the Past", which was developed in partnership with the Minis-

try of Culture and Recreation, and the Ontario Archaeological Society (O.A.S.). The programme provides an opportunity for both O.A.S. members and non-members to volunteer on archaeological projects and to "build a complete record of work done and experience gained"—the "passport". Workshops to improve archaeological skills (i.e. flintknapping, and artifact drawing) are part of the programme.

For information on current projects contact:

The Ontario Archaeological Society, Inc.  
"Passports to the Past"  
126 Willowdale Ave.  
Willowdale, Ont. M2N 4Y2

Jill Osborn, P.I.T. Coordinator  
USDA Forest Service  
P.O. Box 96090  
Washington, D.C. 20090-6090  
Tel: (202) 382-1643

Passport in Time Clearinghouse  
P.O. Box 18364  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
Tel: (202) 293-0922

# BOOK REVIEW

## "Lavishly Illustrated"

**T**HIS HANDSOME, LAVISHLY ILLUSTRATED volume is intended to serve as a textbook for an introductory level course in human osteology. It is based on White's own lecture notes, handouts, and experience garnered over 10 years of teaching introductory osteology at the University of California, Berkeley. The emphasis is on identification of bones and bone fragments, but related topics such as skeletal recovery, preparation, analysis, and curation are also discussed in some detail.

The text is divided into 23 chapters, each of which concludes with a list of further suggested readings on the issues addressed. The introductory chapter places the study of human bones in its scientific context, illustrating the importance of osteology in such diverse fields as archaeology, forensics, and palaeoanthropology. Chapters 2 and 3 deal respectively with the biology of bone, and with the anatomical terminology used to describe skeletal elements and their movements. The individual bones of the skeleton are described in detail in chapters 4 through 13, and abundantly illustrated with full-scale, glossy photographs.

The remaining ten chapters are concerned with aspects of skeletal recovery and analysis, including specimen photography; the assessment of age, sex, stature, and ancestry; nonmetric variation; skeletal pathology; and postmortem changes that can mimic cultural or pathological

modifications. Applications of the principles of osteological analysis are illustrated by means of three actual case studies: a hominid find at Olduvai Gorge; Anasazi remains from the American Southwest; and a modern forensic case. The volume concludes with a discussion of ethical concerns related to the excavation and analysis of human remains.

The greatest strength of this publication lies in the sections dealing with skeletal identification, particularly the numerous, clear, detailed illustrations. However, the utility of the illustrations is diminished somewhat by the author's decision to use the skeleton of a single individual for all photographs, instead of selecting bones that best illustrate the form and structure of the features he wishes to identify.

As is the case with most first editions, several errors, omissions, and redundancies have escaped the editors' scrutiny. These and other minor problems will certainly be corrected in subsequent editions, and do not significantly detract from the value of the book as an interesting introductory text for the novice, and a useful reference work for the experienced osteologist.

JOANNE CURTIN

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**Joanne Curtin has worked as an archaeologist in British Columbia for 14 years, and is currently a doctoral candidate in Physical Anthropology at Ohio State University.**

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## Human Osteology

by TIM WHITE,  
with illustrations  
by Pieter Folkens.

1991. Academic Press, San Diego.  
xix + 455 pp., ills., apdx., bibl., index.  
\$US 59.95 (hardcover).

## DEBITAGE

The bottom of Healy Lake recently drained to afford more space for garbage disposal in Sooke, exposed muck-preserved flora from 10,000 BP that will afford palaeobotanists a look at the local palaeoenvironment at that time . . .

In another wild shuffle of the deck, the provincial office of archaeology is now part of the Ministry of Tourism and the Minister Responsible for Culture, but

it is still known as "The Branch" . . .

In keeping with the quincennial of the "discovery" of America the subject at the **Chacmool Conference** at the University of Calgary (November 12-15th) will be "The Archaeology of Contact: Processes and Consequences" . . .

**Arcas Associates** has received a radiocarbon date from South Delta (DgRs 36) placing basketry from that site

at  $2150 \pm 65$  (WSU 4341), about 300 years earlier than basketry from the Water Hazard site in 1988 . . .

Finally, two members, **Brian Thom** and **Andrew Mason**, have volunteered to revive the dormant Projects Committee of the A.S.B.C. Be prepared to participate in upcoming proposals requesting A.S.B.C. members' active involvement in matters archaeological.

# ANNUAL INDEX TO THE MIDDEN

Publication of the Archaeological Society of British Columbia

Volume 23, 1991 (published February, April, June, October, December)

Compiled by Phyllis Mason  
(\*Indicates illustrated article)

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MCGHEE, ROBERT. *Ancient Canada.* Reviewed by Kathryn Bernick. 23(1):10 F'91.

SEASE, CATHERINE. *A Conservation Manual for the Field Archaeologist.* Reviewed by Mike Beddoes and Sandra Zacharias. 23(4):3 O'91.

STEWART, HILARY. *Totem Poles.* Reviewed by Phyllis Mason. 23(3):10 J'91.

SUTTLES, WAYNE, ED. *Handbook of North American Indians. Vol. 7: Northwest Coast.* Reviewed by Kathryn Bernick. 23(3):10-11 J'91.

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# PERMITS

## Permits issued by the B.C. Archaeology Branch, October through December 1991:

- 1991- 97 Ian Wilson: systematic data recovery, GeTn 2, Crow Lagoon, Khutzeymateen Inlet (north of Port Simpson).
- 1991- 98 Mike Rousseau: impact assessment, Molnar Gravel Pit, Slocan Valley.
- 1991- 99 Ian Wilson: impact assessment and inventory, DgRn 23, vicinity of Hatzic/Mission.
- 1991-100 Morley Eldridge: inventory of 17 Ditidaht Indian Reserves, vicinity of Nitinat River and Nitinat Lake, western Vancouver Island.
- 1991-101 Gordon Mohs: impact assessment and inventory, Ravenwood Golf Course, Hatzic/Mission.
- 1991-102 Sandra Zacharias: impact assessment, Ministry of Highways realignment, near Johnstone Creek, Similkameen District.
- 1991-103 Keary Walde: systematic data recovery, HdRd 3 and HdRd 6, Peace River District.
- 1991-104 Ian Wilson: overview and reconnaissance, Alder Creek, Skeena River.
- 1991-105 Ian Wilson: impact assessment and inventory, Atco Lumber logging road, Lasca Creek, Kootenay District.
- 1991-106 Leonard Ham: inventory, impact assessment and systematic data recovery, Reed Point Marina frontage road, municipalities of Burnaby and Port Moody.
- 1991-107 Ian Wilson: systematic data recovery, EdQx 43, near Monte Creek, Kamloops District.
- 1991-108 Richard Brolly: impact assessment, construction at DhRt 6 (Locarno Beach site).
- 1991-109 Ian Wilson: impact assessment, logging road, Grohman Creek, Kootenay District.
- 1991-110 Richard Brolly: impact assessment, Alouette Dam Spillway rehabilitation project.
- 1991-111 Keary Walde: impact assessment, Stoddart Creek, Peace River District.
- 1991-112 Richard Brolly: inventory, North-South Interconnector, Quesnel.
- 1991-113 Sandra Zacharias: impact assessment and inventory, DgRq 3 (Keenlyside site), Surrey.
- 1991-114 Ian Wilson: impact assessment, proposed gravel quarry, Lumberton, Kootenay District.
- 1991-115 Rod Heintzmann: impact assessment, Radium Visitor Reception Centre, Radium.
- 1991-116 Morley Eldridge: impact assessment and inventory, DgRr 2, Delta.
- 1991-117 Ian Wilson: impact assessment and inventory, proposed Northern Utilities hydro project, Mamquam River, New Westminster District.
- 1991-118 Diana French: impact assessment, proposed subdivision near Kelowna.
- 1991-119 Bjorn Simonsen: inventory, FbTb 5, Kynumpt Harbour, Coast District.
- 1991-120 Karen Preckel: monitoring of sea wall excavation, DhRr 6, Belcarra Park, New Westminster District.
- 1991-121 Morley Eldridge: impact assessment, proposed subdivision, Frost Ave./Lochside Drive, Sidney.
- 1991-122 Bjorn Simonsen: impact assessment, Fanny Bay Oyster Co. warehouse, Mud Bay, eastern Vancouver Island.
- 1991-123 Mike Rousseau: impact assessment, proposed subdivision near Anglemont, Kamloops District.
- 1991-124 Ian Wilson: impact assessment, forestry cut blocks and haul roads, Naden Harbour, Queen Charlotte District.
- 1991-125 Geordie Howe: impact assessment, Pearson Island, Pender Harbour.
- 1991-126 Geordie Howe: impact assessment, DjSa 22, west of Garden Bay, Pender Harbour.
- 1991-127 Keary Walde: impact assessment, University of Northern B.C., Prince George.
- 1991-128 Mike Rousseau: impact assessment, Sunview Properties subdivision, Westbank, Osoyoos District.

# EXCAVATION OPPORTUNITIES BECKON

Along with thoughts of warmer weather at this time of year, opportunities for "archaeological encounters" (as one brochure puts it) begin to appear. Further information is available from:

## FIELD SCHOOLS:

### Field School Volunteer Program, Israel

(April 26-June 4; June 14-August 2)

Professor Lawrence E. Stager, Harvard University, Ashkelon Excavations, The Semitic Museum, 6 Divinity Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. Tel: (617) 495-9385

### Santa Fe, New Mexico

(May 24-July 3)

Marianne L. Stoller, Chair, Department of Anthropology, The Colorado College, 14 East Cache La Poudre St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903. Tel: (719) 389-6362

### Nikopolis, Greece

(June 1-July 11, apply by April 1)

Boston University, Division of International Programs, 232 Bay State Rd., Boston, MA 02215. Tel: (617) 353-9888

### Koobi Fora, Kenya

(June 7-July 18; July 23-Sept.2)

Harvard Summer School, Attn: H.V. Merrick, 51 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA 02138

### Oahu, Hawaii

(June 22-July 31)

Department of Anthropology, Dr. Michael W. Graves, 2424 Maile Way, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, HA 96822

### The Broken Mammoth Site, Alaska

(July 2-August 14, apply by May 1)

Dr. David R. Yesner, Department of Anthropology, University of Alaska, 3211 Providence Dr., Anchorage, AK 99508. Tel: (907) 786-1630

### "Lunt" Fort, England

(July 27-August 21)

Anthony A. Barrett, Department of Classics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z1. Tel: 822-4064

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITIONS:

### Beth Shean, Israel

(May 25-June 8)

Mina Cohn, Director, Archaeological Encounter, Intra Madison Travel, 56 Sparks St., suite 400, Ottawa, Ont. K1P 5A9

### Tell Safut, Jordan

(July 1-31, apply by April 1)

William Glanzman, Department of Archaeology, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6

 **THE MIDDEN**

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