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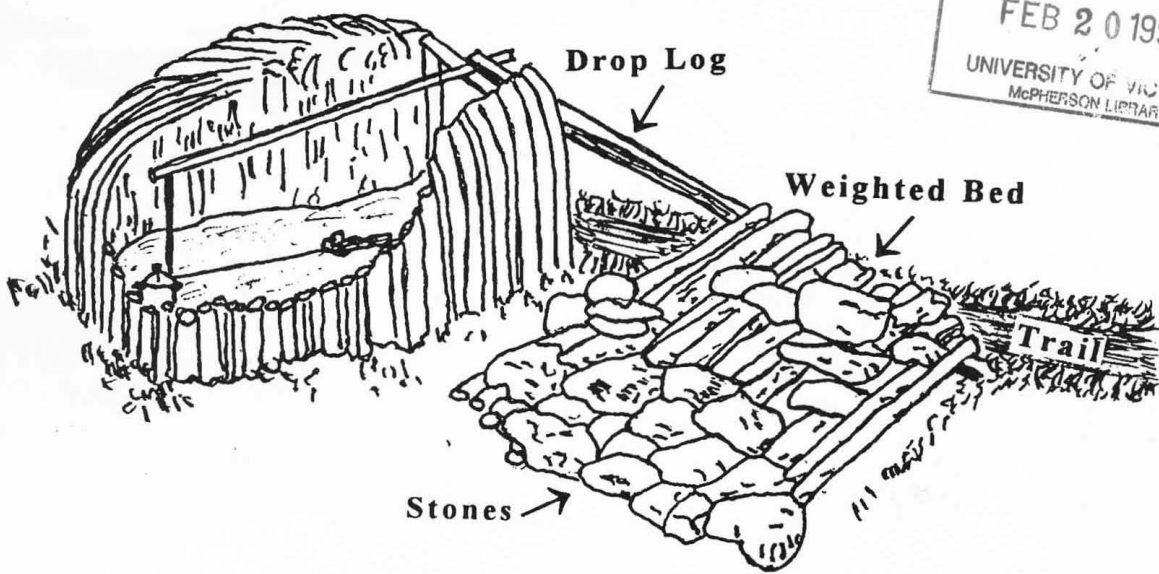
for



THE MIDDEN

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“THE BEAR FACTS”

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THE MIDDEN

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B.C. archaeology. Guidelines are available on request. Submis-
sions and exchange publications should be directed to the appro-
priate editor at the ASBC address.

Contributors this issue

Helmi Braches, Robbin Chatan, Morley Eldridge,
Alan McMillan Bjorn Simonsen, Jim Stafford

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FRONT COVER:

*Bear trap (after Koppert, 1930:78): illustration of an ethno-
graphic bear trap taken from Contributions to Clayoquot Eth-
nology by Vincent A. Koppert.*

These traps and the way that they functioned are described
by Stafford and Eldridge in their article in this issue. An arguement
is made for two rock feature sites that were recently recorded by
Millennia Research archaeologists during a CMT survey near
Ursus Creek on the west coast of Vancouver Island.

Figure 2, from article, "Deadfall Traps: The Bear Facts in the
Ursus Valley," p. 7-8.

ASBC

Dedicated to the protection of archaeological resources,
and the spread of archaeological knowledge.

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Programme Chair: Lorrie Lee Hayden
Meetings the second Monday of the month at Malaspina Uni-
versity College, Department of Social Science.

Victoria. Contact: Tom Bown (385-2708),
e-mail: tbown@al.pfc.forestry.ca
Meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the
Royal British Columbia Museum, Victoria.

ASBC DIARY:

1996

- January 10 **Dr. R.G. Matson, Archaeology, UBC**
Shingle Point Houses and Northwest Coast
Prehistory
- February 14 **JOINT MEETING WITH AIA.**
Dr. James Russell, Classics, UBC
"Chasing Roman Soldiers"
- March 14 **Inge Dahm, MA candidate, SFU**
"Gulf Island Whatzits"
- April 10 **Doug Brown, MA candidate, UBC**
- on the Somenos Creek site



MIDDEN

NEW IDEAS AND ENERGY

Well, almost a year later comes the official hand-over of *The Midden* to its new Chief Editor, Geordie Howe, and now-complete team—Robbin Chatan, Publications Editor; John Maxwell, Field Editor; Heather Myles, News Editor; and, Biely's back as Production Manager. Alison, who spent the last year in a Communications programme at Concordia University in Montreal, is back just in time to fill the last vacancy and has agreed to lay out and produce *The Midden* for us again.

All of the team are professional archaeologists. Geordie works with Arcas Consulting Archaeologists. Robbin and John both have full-time positions with Millennia Research. Heather continues working with the Stó:lo Nation. Since her return Alison has worked as crew on several archaeological projects in B.C.

As Terry Spurgeon noted in his editorial in the last issue, "New people bring new ideas and energy to the job, so more change is in the offing" (*The Midden* 27/3:1). With this fine new editorial team, all directly involved in archaeology, you are bound to see more of what archaeology is about today as you find out what's happening in B.C. and see how the face of archaeology is changing. Less and less of the "Indiana Jones" type of romantic archaeology is occurring as more and more "preventative" archaeology is being done to save sites before they are impacted by the onslaught of development that is taking place at all levels. As new, more efficient highways are planned, hydro lines built, forests cut, mines expanded, and construction occurs, archaeologists are being called in to predict the impact on sites. The resources of our B.C. landscape currently being exploited inevitably impact on prehistoric sites which used the same resources in earlier times.

Today archaeologists take advantage of more scientific methods and remote sensing to try to predict the most likely locations for sites and test these predictions without destroying the site. This too is pretty heady stuff—air surveys by helicopter and kayak, infra-red photography, electrical conductivity and soil resistivity tests, to name a few, can suggest the best methods to excavate a site. These methods are financed by the companies developing the areas, and the archaeology must be quick and accurate, putting a lot of pressure on this new breed of archaeologist today.

First Nations groups are participating more as they claim responsibility for the lands where their traditions and history live. They are taking advantage of the legal system which for so long has been used against them. At the same time as a demand for expediency by big business, First Nations groups are holding back, cautious about allowing any further destruction of their traditional landscape. Archaeology today is feeling the pressures from both.

Now that this new editorial team is in place, I am sorry that I will be no longer working with them. I have enjoyed the cooperation and teamwork that has gone on with Heather, John and Robbin for the past year while searching for a Chief Editor. And working with Alison again on this issue, producing *The Midden* has actually been fun, and not the lonely chore it used to be. I regret leaving, but I think you, the readers, will profit from the new energy and awareness that your new editorial team will bring to *The Midden*.

Joyce Johnson
Past Editor

NEWS ITEMS

Calling All Volunteers

Imogene Lim, president of the Nanaimo Branch ASBC, assisted by Stan Copp from Langara College, will be running a salvage excavation in Vancouver's Chinatown and require the assistance of many volunteers.

The site is currently an Impark lot, located at 71-77 East Pender Street. It was once occupied by a three-story building built in 1908 by the Gim Lee Yuen Company, a general merchandise company. During and prior to the Gim Lee Yuen Company's tenure, the building was used for commercial, retail, and residential purposes, and included a pool room, silk importers, dry goods, watch repairer, butcher, grocer, and furniture maker. In 1987 the building was severely burned and then razed.

Up to this point a historic site has not been excavated within an urban context in B.C. Because supplies sent to rural Chinese settlements in the BC interior originated from Vancouver, this investigation will be the first step in establishing a data base. Excavated materials from this provincial heritage site (DhRs 27) will provide comparative data for excavations conducted in other Chinese urban sites in Canada and the United States.

Because the site came to Lim's attention in the late summer of 1995, there was no time to seek funding. As a result the project will have to be operated with the assistance of volunteers. The developer has agreed to an archaeological investigation being conducted two weeks prior to construction groundbreaking. As of yet this date has not been established but is expected to occur in February/March. Volunteers are asked to contribute a minimum of one morning and/or afternoon of labour. Excavation equipment will be provided by Langara College, but volunteers should bring their own trowels.

If you are interested in helping or require further information contact: Imogene Lim, Tel. (604) 753-3245 ex. 2250, or Robin Hooper Tel. 582-8357.

Hidden Dimensions

In April 1995 the UBC Museum of Anthropology, co-sponsored by the ASBC, hosted a conference on wet-site archaeology entitled "Hidden Dimensions: The Cultural Significance of Wetland Archaeology." It was held in cooperation with the Musqueam, Tsawwassen, Katzie, and Stó:lo Nations. The conference attracted an international selection of participants including archaeologists, conservators and land managers.

The UBC Laboratory of Archaeology will publish papers that were presented at the conference. They cover a wide range of topics from current wet-site archaeological research to object conservation. Target date for the publication is late summer/early fall, 1996.

Fur Trade

The Second Columbia Department Fur Trade Conference, entitled "The Hudson's Bay Company's Northwest," was presented by the Centre for Columbia River History in September/October of 1995 in Vancouver, Washington. The conference dealt with the Hudson's Bay Company's [HBC] historic operation in the Pacific Northwest, specifically focusing on the history of the company's Columbia Department.

Several of the papers and organized tours dealt with the archaeology of HBC forts, with a specific focus on Fort Langley. Stan Copp from Langara College presented "Fort Langley: The Archaeological Record;" Lester Ross from Historical Archaeological Consulting, spoke about the "Historical Archaeology of HBC Forts;" Anne Merkley from Idaho State University presented "Getting Started on Research for Historical Sites: The Example of Old Fort Hall;" and Douglas Hudson from the University College of the Fraser Valley on "Fort Langley: The Ethnographic Record and Fort Society."

Lithic Course

The Washington State University is offering two courses on lithic technology during the Spring of 1996. 'Technological Analysis of Flaked Stone Tools' is a five-day lecture course running from March 18-22 [\$895 US includes room and board]. The class will focus on the analysis of flaked stone tool debitage and the identification of reduction technologies from archaeological contexts.

A 'Lithic Technology Fieldschool' will be held June 12-30. This course is designed as an extension of the five-day analysis class. It will employ flintknapping as an analytical tool, and involve goal-oriented flintknapping.

For information on cost, times, and location, contact Dr. J. Jeffrey Flen-ningen at the Washington State University.

Nanaimo ASBC

The Nanaimo Branch of the ASBC held their AGM in May 1995. Members elected to the executive committee were President: Imogene Lim; Vice-President/Programme Chair: Lorrie Lee Hayden; Treasurer: Dorothy Young; Secretary: Mary Perdios, Vassilopoulos; Membership: Jan Blackburn; and Newsletter Editor: Vic Yanda. Past President is Richard Bagnald.

Artifact ID

This spring the Museum of Anthropology is again offering free artifact identification clinics to the public. MOA staff will help identify your objects, and provide conservation advice. No financial appraisals are given. The clinics will be held Tuesday January 30, and Tuesday, March 26, 7:00 - 8:00 pm in Room 217.

In order for staff to prepare for your visit, please call 822-5087 in advance, to inform them about what you will bring.

PROFILE OF AN AVOCATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGIST

Initially this article had been planned as an interview with Don Bunyan, much like the interviews with Don Mitchell and Roy Carlson printed in two previous issues of The Midden. However, due to Parkinson's disease, verbal communication has become extremely difficult for Don, and a regular interview was out of the question. So in addition to spending some time with Don, I talked to friends of his and to people who know him from archaeology. In particular, I wish to thank Ted Affleck, Michael Cranny, R.G. Matson, and Richard Pearson for their help with this project.

by Helmi Braches

People who pursue an avocation out of love rather than as a means of earning an income from it are all too often called amateurs, even though their knowledge and experience of their hobby far exceeds what would be considered the amateur level.

R.D. Forrest, review of
Pursuing the Past

Donald E. Bunyan was born in Nelson, B.C. on November 29th, 1917. His father had come out from Ontario to join the Klondike goldrush and later settled in Nelson. Don's own involvement with mining was relatively brief: he worked for a year in the Sheep Creek area in the West Kootenays when the U.S. went off the gold standard in 1933, and later for a short time in a lead smelter in Trail.

Among the other activities that characterize Don's years in Nelson were moose hunting, and an early involvement with theatre. In 1934 he participated in the production of "Goodbye Again" at the Nelson Little Theatre. Many years later Don was part of the Baghdad theatrical group in Iraq.

Don seems to have been an extraordinarily intelligent child and good student, which is reflected in an anecdote by Don's friend, Ted Affleck: When Ted's mother, a teacher, was supposed to substitute in the French class Don was attending, the regular teacher concluded her briefing with the

recommendation, "If there is any problem, just ask Don!" This seems typical of the part Don has played later in life in any project or event.

His post-secondary education took Don to Vancouver, where he studied math and physics at UBC. According to Affleck,

for pure research," and the Ph.D. never materialized. Instead, in 1951 he signed a contract with the British owned Iraq Petroleum Company, which took him to Iraq. He worked there as an oil field engineer until 1973, when the political circumstances following Sadam Hussein's seizure of power precipitated Don's rather hasty departure from that country.

During the 22 years he spent in Iraq, Don came to love that country and its people, whose language he learned as well. Together with G.A. Yacu, he produced the translation from Arabic of *Irrigation and Civilization in the Land of the Twin Rivers* by Ahmed Sousa (Baghdad 1969). More important from our point of view, his interest in archaeology was aroused in those years.

During travels he saw the great sites in Iran, Lebanon and Jordan. In Iraq itself he

became acquainted with the archaeologists of the day—Robert Braidwood, and Hans and Diana Kirkbride. He assisted Braidwood by photographing the artifact collection from his fieldwork, and thus contributed to the 1960 report by R.J. Braidwood and B. Howe, *Prehistoric investigations in Iraqi Kurdistan*.

When Don returned to Canada in 1973 at age 56, he decided to use his early retirement to become more involved in archaeology. He enrolled in the Department



Chilcotin Fieldschool 1974: Bunyan (right) mapping the site.
Photo courtesy R.G. Matson.

these subjects were looked upon as "brainy" as opposed to the applied sciences. Don did very well and received his B.A. in 1940. Two years later, in 1942, followed not only an M.A., but also a scholarship to pursue a Ph.D. in England. However, he joined the Armed Forces first. It was not until after the war that he went to Birmingham, England, to do a dissertation in physics.

However, at this stage he began to realize that, as he puts it, "I was not cut out

of Anthropology at UBC and took the Archaeology of B.C. course, plus a field school with R.G. Matson. Today, Matson recalls Don as a "very competent student" who was "always extremely courteous and helpful to faculty and other students." It must have been a pleasure to have him at the field school in the Chilcotin, where prehistoric settlement patterns were being investigated. Don later co-authored the (unpublished) report with Matson. He also worked on the lithic analysis of the artifacts from Matson's earlier excavation at Grand Guleh, Cedar Mesa in the American Southwest.

When the UBC Museum of Anthropology opened, Don prepared a visitor's guide to the archaeology gallery. Richard Pearson, then Curator of Archaeology, proposed to transform this into the Museum Note, *Pursuing the Past*. Published in 1976, *Pursuing the Past* was one of the very few syntheses of B.C. archaeology and was, according to Pearson, "critical in bringing archaeology to the public in the mid seventies."

Don still remembers with gratitude the support he received from Pearson during the completion of that project, and for years he maintained ties with the Department of Anthropology and his friendship with the Archaeology Curatorial Assistant, the late Moira Irvine. As long as physically possible, he personally delivered the monthly notice of the ASBC lectures, which gave him a chance to catch up on the latest news in the Department and in archaeology.

It was also in the mid-seventies that Don worked on the Fraser Valley survey for ASAB, the former Archaeological Sites Advisory Board in Victoria. Mike Cranny, who worked together with Don on the northern section of the Fraser Valley, remembers the cataloguing of quite a few Fraser River sites throughout the summer. He also remembers some other aspects of those months, which he shared with us:

I think a highlight for Don, and for myself, was our boat search of the Alouette River and of Pitt Lake. I don't think we found a heck of a lot but we had some good camping. There were so many unusual things on the lake—thunderbird holes, legendary crabapple trees, lake-level mine shafts, ruined camps, old railroads, lost gold mines, etc., that we were quite taken up with the romance of the place. We were actually deluded enough to think that our camp was under attack from a sas-

quatch, or some other mysterious Pitt Lake monster.

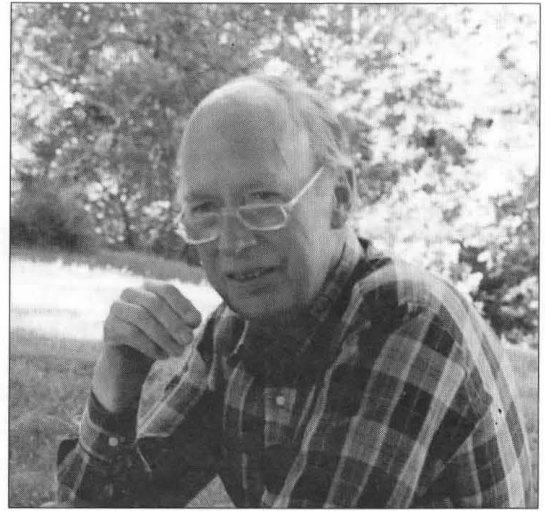
Camping, nature, and the outdoors were things Don enjoyed very much, and he always found time to join in the excursions of the hiking and cross-country ski clubs to which he belonged.

Right after returning from Iraq to Vancouver Don also became a member of the ASBC. He heard about the Society, which was just 6 years old then, through a radio broadcast and joined right away. That summer the ASBC participated in the 1973 UBC field school excavation at the Glenrose Cannery Site, and Don took part in it. He later wrote a paper entitled, "Shell Content as Determined by Solubility in Acid," which was included in R.G. Matson's *The Glenrose Cannery Site*, published in 1976 as Archaeological Survey of Canada Paper No. 52 in the National Museum of Man's Mercury Series.

In 1974 ASBC President, Marie Duncan, invited Don to join the Executive Committee of the Society. His first "job" was that of the projectionist, and during the time Don looked after the projector, we all came to take for granted flawless performance on the technical side at our monthly lectures. He also looked after publicity, either mailing or personally delivering the notice of our monthly meetings to whatever public agencies might announce them. That job, too, was handled diligently.

One of the more demanding tasks Don carried out included preparing the application for, and subsequent administration of, a Canada Council Grant for the ASBC's Private Collections Project in 1976/77. The ASBC was working on a project where several teams of volunteers would locate, photograph and record private collections of B.C. prehistoric artifacts in peoples' homes. The point had been reached where the information gathered in this way had to be catalogued and properly stored. The grant made it possible to hire a student for this task, and it allowed for other odds and ends in connection with the project. Although the paperwork surrounding this project may not have been exactly stimulating, Don carried out the task creatively and conscientiously.

From 1984-86 Don was President of the ASBC. During that time, together with



Bunyan at a 1988 ASBC gathering.
Photo courtesy Helmi Braches.

Colin Gurnsey, he made a presentation to the 1986 annual meeting of the CAA in Winnipeg, promoting the ASBC's position on the federal legislation concerning the exportation of cultural heritage. This issue had come to a head over the approval for export of a prehistoric stone bowl from Canada by a B.C. archaeologist and government employee. Then, for many years—until 1994—in his inimitable style he edited SocNotes, the monthly news bulletin for ASBC members.

During those years Don also wrote many articles, mostly for *The Midden*, but also for *Heritage West*. His contributions included a series on outstanding Canadian archaeologists and anthropologists: Carl Borden, James Deans, Roy Carlson, James Teit, Harlan Smith, and George Mercer Dawson. The articles spanned the period from December 1978 to December 1981. Moreover, he wrote various *Midden* articles on the ASBC and its concerns, close to a dozen book reviews, and a moving tribute to Moira Irvine who had died in 1989.

Don's activities for the ASBC suffered two interruptions in 1983/84, when, through connections he had established during his time in Iraq, he was offered the opportunity to do archaeological fieldwork in the Middle East. The first project saw him working as a site supervisor under Diana Kirkbride-Helbaek at a dig conducted by the British Institute of Archaeology in Amman, Jordan. The site was Beidha, a 9000 year-old village on the outskirts of Petra.

Don describes the four months he spent

on this project as the highpoint of his entire career as an avocational archaeologist. Everything on this project seems to have been just perfect—the site and the results of the investigation, the people he worked with, and last, but not least, the country, Jordan, and its people. All these things made for a truly rewarding experience. Don was also the official photographer on the project, and because of the proximity of Beidha to Petra, he was able to explore Petra's spectacular ruins as well.

Another opportunity took Don to Oman in December 1983. This project was part of a search for the mythical city of Dilmun, whose existence was known from Sumerian tablets. The project was run by a team from the Department of Ancient History of the University of Birmingham, which had been in the area for a while during the years prior to 1983. During Don's participation in the project, a site was indeed found and excavated. Although the pottery it yielded might have been of the same age as the early Sumerian period, nothing was found that would have identified this site as Dilmun.

In 1982 and 1984 Don went to China with the UBC Continuing Education group led

by Richard Pearson and Mary Frank MacFarlane. On both trips, the group visited archaeological and historic sites throughout the country for 3-4 weeks. Don was an indefatigable participant. On the first trip, Don roomed with Pearson who remembers that Don would routinely get up at the break of dawn and go jogging. Then on his return would repack his suitcase. Pearson, who is not an early riser himself and, as the tour leader, was in need of more rest, recalls that this display of energy on the part of his roommate "drove him nuts."

It was this same energy which irritated Pearson at 6:00 am in the hotel rooms of China, that has given Don the strength in his battle with Parkinson's Disease. Around 1985 symptoms of the illness first appeared, although Don was not diagnosed until a few years later. It became increasingly difficult for him to speak which is perhaps the hardest thing for him to bear. A person who excelled in the use of language, who delighted in wit, enjoyed conversation and the telling of anecdotes and stories, he has been increasingly reduced to the role of a listener and outsider.

At first Don made heroic efforts to keep up conversation. He even acquired an attachment for his laptop computer which translated typed input into spoken sentences. However, even this tool became too difficult for Don to operate. Nevertheless, he has continued to faithfully attend the executive meetings of the ASBC and participates silently, often helping at crucial stages with his incredible memory for names or events that took place years ago.

We have singled out Don Bunyan to be acknowledged in this article, because with his achievements in archaeology and his contributions to the ASBC, he is an outstanding amateur archaeologist in the best sense of the word, and an inspiration to others. As Richard Pearson sees it, with ever shrinking university budgets, the role of amateurs could in fact increase, if the universities and other institutions are willing to invite them. Don Bunyan is an exceptional example of what an avocational archaeologist can achieve.

Helmi Braches is a translator and holds an M.A. in linguistics. She has been active on the ASBC Executive Committee for 20 years, including two years as President of the Society.

LECTURES

Archaeological Institute of America

- Feb. 14 8:00 pm Joint AIA/ASBC Meeting
Professor James Russell, Dept. of Classics, U.B.C.
Chasing Roman Soldiers
Lecture Theatre of the Vancouver Museum
- Feb. 26 8:00 pm Professor Altan Çilingiroglu, Ege Univ., Izmir, Turkey
Rusahilini: An Urartian Fortress - Results of Seven Years Excavations at Ayanis
Theatre at the Museum of Anthropology
- Apr. 1 8:00 pm Professor James R. Wiseman, Dept. of Archaeology, Boston University
The Nikopolis Project
Theatre at the Museum of Anthropology

Xá:ytem Longhouse Interpretive Centre, Misson, B.C.

- Feb. 8 7:00 pm Dr. D. Boxberger, Dept. of Anthropology, Western Washington University
A History of the Culture and Politics of Fishing
- Mar. 14 7:00 pm Sonny McHalsie, Stó:lo Nation
Stó:lo Storytelling
- Marc. 28 7:00 pm Gordon Mohs, Stó:lo Nation
Traditions of Death Among the River People
- May 9 7:00 pm Dr. M. Blake, Dept. of Anthropology/Sociology, UBC
Archaeology: Pyramids of the Fraser Valley

F.Y.I.

MINISTRY OF SMALL BUSINESS, TOURISM AND CULTURE

Archaeology Branch

*Free while stocks last. Contact Robyn Macdonald, Archaeology Branch, Ministry of Small Business, Tourism and Culture, 800 Johnson Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4.
Tel.: 660-2421 or 1-800-663-7867, ask for 356-0882; Fax: (604) 387-4420*

- 1995 ***British Columbia Designated Heritage Sites Registry***
- 1995 ***British Columbia Archaeological Impact Assessment Guidelines*** (Second Revised Ed.)
by Brian Apland and Ray Kenny.
- 1995 ***British Columbia Archaeological Resource Management Handbook*** (Revised Ed.).
by Brian Apland and Ray Kenny.
- 1989 ***British Columbia Archaeological Site Inventory Form Guide***
J.G. Foster (ed)
- 1991 ***British Columbia Documenting Shipwrecks: Shipwreck Recording Guide.***
Ian Whitbread (ed)

MINISTRY OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

- 1994/95 ***A Guide to Aboriginal Organizations and Services in British Columbia.***

An extremely useful guide on the aboriginal organizations and services in B.C.; includes sections on arts and culture, business and economic development, commissions, communications, Metis organizations, umbrella organizations, women's organizations, and the First Nations (bands, tribal councils/affiliations, and chiefs).

*Free from the Communications Branch, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, 1st Floor, 908 Pandora Avenue, Victoria V8V 1X4.
Tel: 660-2421 or 1-800-663-7867, ask for 356-0330; Fax (604) 387-1785.*

British Columbia Treaty Commission

- 1994 ***Traditional Territories of British Columbia First Nations.***

A coloured 8½ x 11 map representing traditional territorial claims by First Nations whose statements of intent to negotiate a treaty have been accepted as of November 1, 1994.

*Free from the B.C. Treaty Commission, 203 - 1155 West Pender Street, Vancouver V6E 2P4.
Tel: (604) 775-2078; Fax (604) 775-2092.*

MINISTRY OF FORESTS

- 1994 ***Tree Book: Learning to Recognize Trees of British Columbia***

by Roberta Parish and Sandra Thomson.

Research Branch, Ministry of Forests and Canadian Forest Service, Victoria. 183pp. colour plates, illus. ref., index.

A handy guide book to identify 40 B.C. native tree species; includes tips on how to recognize trees, environmental information for each species, some information on past and present uses for each tree; well-illustrated with drawings, colour plates, and various keys for identification.

*Free; one copy per request while supplies last from Ms. Ruth Epple Dickens, Public Affairs Branch, Ministry of Forests, Suite 300 - 1675 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3E7.
Tel.660-2421 or 1-800-663-7867, ask for 387-5255; Fax (604) 387-8485.*

DEADFALL TRAPS

THE BEAR FACTS IN THE URSUS VALLEY

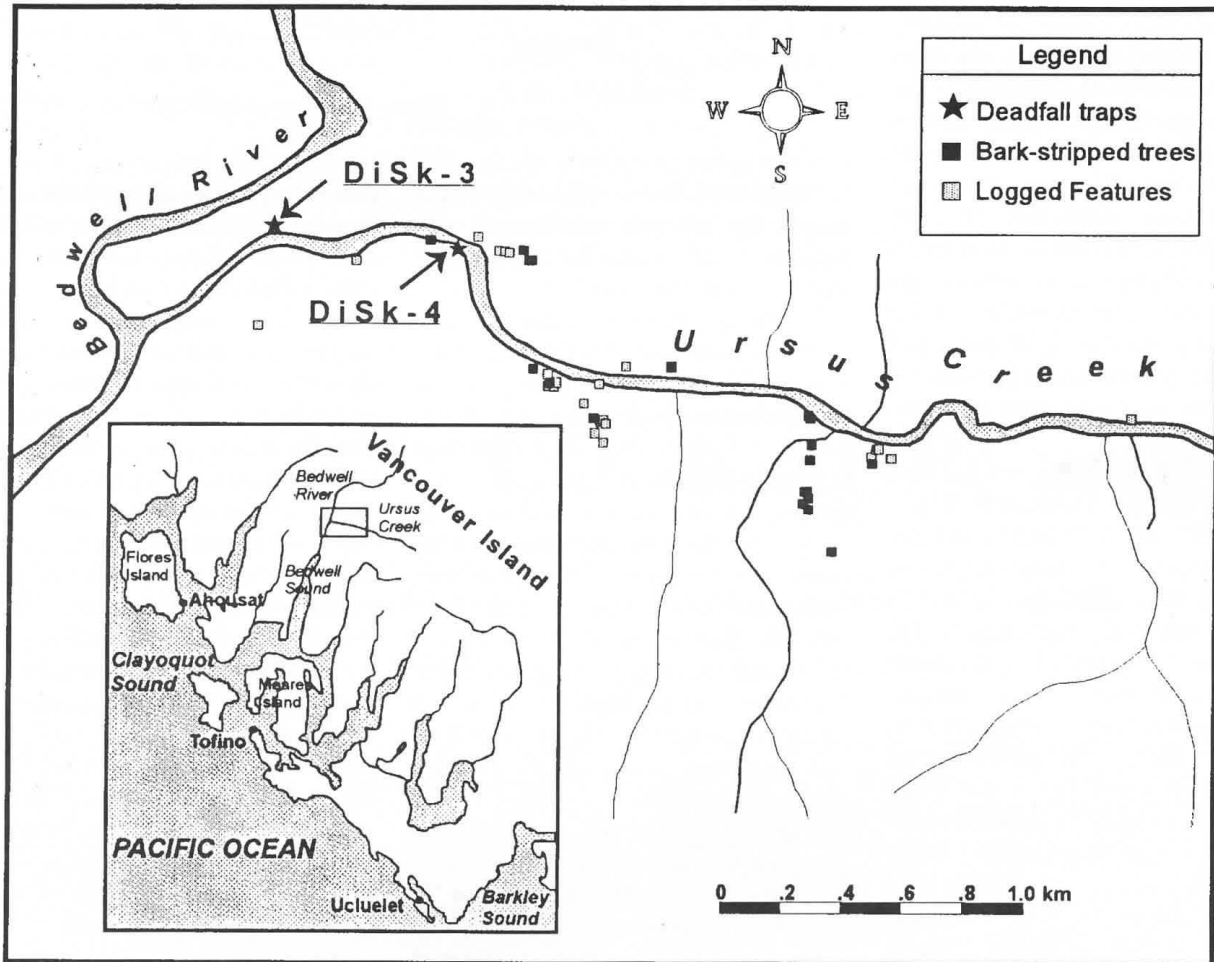


Figure 1. Ursus Creek study area.

by Jim Stafford and Morley Eldridge

In the late summer, 1995, Millennia Research conducted a systematic CMT survey of the Ursus Creek watershed for the Port Alberni Ministry of Forests and Ahousaht First Nation (Eldridge and Stafford 1995). This task was accomplished in order to provide data which could be used, in conjunction with CMT data gathered from Meares Island (Arcas 1986), to produce a computerized predictive model of CMT locations in the Clayoquot Sound region. During the field research, two rock feature sites were found that represent

deadfall traps, a common method of catching large mammals. Although this method of entrapment has been described in the ethnographic record, these features have never before been recorded archaeologically in British Columbia.

The study area (fig.1), located on the west coast of Vancouver Island, ca. 3 km north of the head of Bedwell Sound, had low potential for archaeological materials other than CMTs. The thick vegetation and organic soil, combined with few non-perishable items in traditional Nuuchah-

nulth material culture, makes inland archaeological sites very difficult to find. High potential lands (including an Indian Reserve) near the head of Bedwell Sound were outside the study area boundary; and the confluence of the Bedwell and Ursus Rivers have been logged, thus reducing the chances of finding intact archaeological deposits in this locality.

Although intensive subsurface testing might have revealed sites along the lower Ursus River itself, few areas stood out as having a high archaeological potential.

Nevertheless, petroform features (DiSk 3, DiSk 4) were found at two locations by different crews on the same day. The features are remarkably similar. In each case, the features consisted of one to two metre diameter clusters of dense small boulders (ca. 25cm by 40cm) which were piled one to two high. They were both found on slightly elevated, level, fluvial terraces, within two to five metres from the riverbank.

These features are clearly not natural in origin and although their age and function is little understood, ethnographic information suggests these features are very likely weights for deadfall traps. They are not very ancient, since they occur at or near the surface in an area that is fluvially active. An educated guess for a minimum age is 50 to 100 years. In one case a single rock cluster was observed, while the other site had two clusters ca. 2.5m apart. It is felt that the slight variations between the two features may represent different types of deadfall trap.

Deadfall traps were used extensively on the west coast of Vancouver Island (Drucker 1951:32-33;180-181), and bear and deer trapping was a major activity in the Bedwell-Ursus drainage even in this century (Bouchard & Kennedy 1990). For example, Peter Webster (1983:18-20) wrote of bear deadfall traps and later stated to Bouchard and Kennedy (1990:446,449) that he, his father, and his grandfather all conducted this activity in the lower Bedwell River valley. In addition to numerous accounts of bear trapping within the Bedwell Sound area, deadfall traps continued to be used into the 1940s and '50s, as reported elsewhere in Clayoquot Sound (Arcas 1986, IV:62).

In *Contributions to Clayoquot Ethnology*, Koppert (1930:78-81) describes traditional Nuu-chah-nulth deadfall traps in detail and states that bear traps were placed "near a stream where the bears follow the creek." Furthermore, he notes that bear traps consisted of a semi-circular "cave" made of poles standing closely together and covered with branches (see fig.2, cover). The mechanism which stunned or killed the animal included a baited trip line, a drop log, and a single "weight bed" at one end of the drop log

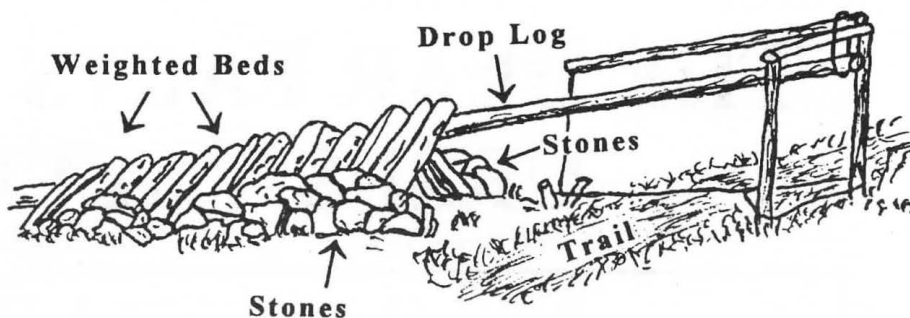


Figure 3. Deer trap (taken after Koppert 1930:82).

beside the trail. The weight bed consisted of a small pole/log platform covered with large rocks at the end of the drop log furthest from the 'trap' itself.

According to Koppert and Drucker, deer traps were built somewhat differently than bear traps. No "cave" was necessary to hide the bait and position the bear's head. Rather, the trap was sprung by the deer tripping a cord which ran near to the ground and across a well-used trail (fig. 3). Koppert describes deer traps as being placed directly across a trail rather than immediately beside it, and diagrams indicate that deer traps consisted of two weighted beds, one extending from either side of the drop log, while the bear trap is illustrated as having only one weighted bed positioned on one side of the drop log (see Koppert 1930: 79,81; Drucker 1951: 33). Drucker (1951:32-33) also notes that deer deadfalls were "built across a trail", while the bear deadfalls were placed "at the side of the trail instead of across it".

Placing the drop log adjacent to the trail requires that the weighted bed be placed on the side of the drop log away from the trail, thus not interfering with the trail itself. On the other hand, because deer trap drop logs are positioned across the trail, the weighted beds can be placed away from the trail, allowing for two weighted beds to be utilized. The deer trap would therefore produce two clusters of rocks, such as those observed at DiSk 4, while the bear trap would produce only one, like that recorded at DiSk 3 (fig. 2, cover). Of course, two bear traps, each using single weight beds but built at different times,

could also produce two rock clusters. Furthermore, it may also be the case that bears could become trapped fortuitously in deer traps positioned across trails.

However, ethnographic information suggests the need for differing trap configurations and thus differing resultant archaeological features. And whatever the prey, be it bear, deer, or the occasional human (Webster 1983 notes this occurrence), it is felt that the recorded rock features were almost certainly the rocks once covering the weighted beds of deadfall traps.

Archaeologically, the rock clusters are the most apparent feature of these variety of deadfall traps. However, subsurface testing of surrounding areas might reveal postholes (i.e. moulds) for the suspending cross bar, or in the case of bear traps, the semi-circles of post holes surrounding the "trap". Ethnographic accounts describe the poles and posts as being set or driven into the ground near to a stream or trail and it is in these places archaeologists should look to locate such rock features during survey.

A search was made of the B.C. Archaeological Site Inventory in CHIN (Canadian Heritage Information Network) for deadfall traps or related features such as petroforms or cairns. Surprisingly, there has been no previous identification of deadfall traps of this sort in British Columbia (the only two listed are actually pitfall traps). The identification of an archaeological correlate for this important and widely used ethnographic food harvesting strategy is a major accomplishment for the Ursus Creek project.

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Morley Eldridge, M.A., has been actively involved in B.C. archaeology for the past 27 years. He is presently the principal of Millennia Research.

LOOK FOR: articles

Moss, Madonna L. and John M. Erlandson.

1995 *Reflections on North American Pacific Coast Prehistory*.
Journal of World Prehistory 9(1):1-45.

Although at the period of contact this coast was occupied by many distinctive ethnic groups following hunter-gatherer lifeways, they did share an adaptation of generally similar marine, nearshore, littoral, and estuarine environments. Much of the archaeological investigation has been stimulated by four basic research questions: 1) the origins or antiquity of the earliest coastal manifestations; 2) temporal changes in subsistence economies; 3) the development of cultural complexity within these hunter-gatherer adaptations; and 4) the origins and evolution of the ethnographic patterns. Most of the research conducted has focused on the question of origins of a variety of cultural phenomena based on progressive evolutionism.

Moss and Erlandson note the gaps which exist in the present archaeological knowledge of the Pacific Coast, and ambiguities in the archaeological data used. They also illustrate issues found in current cultural reconstruction. They acknowledge that there is a general dearth of detailed environmental and paleo-environmental data for many areas of the Pacific Coast, and the problems in the archaeological record are based on spatial and chronological disparities and small sample sizes. This comparative review of the archaeological records from the Pacific Coast of North America does present a succinct synthesis of the current understanding of the history of archaeological research trends in this important culture area.

Maschner, Herbert D.G., and Jeffery W. Stein.

1995 *Multivariate Approaches to Site Location on the Northwest Coast of North America*.
Antiquity 69(1):61-73.

Within the body of archaeological method and theory are issues pertaining to the modelling of prehistoric site locations. Recent studies have demonstrated that a relationship exists between natural resources and seasonality, and site location. Logistic regression analysis has been successfully used to model settlement location, and log-linear modelling has been used to address the structure of the relationships among known site location variables. Maschner and Stein use both these statistical procedures with the data collected in the Tebenkof Bay region, Kuiu Island, southeastern Alaska. They identify several variables—solar exposure, climatic exposure, island size, beach quality, site slope or grade, site drainage, distance to fresh water, and site size or area—as being pertinent in the prehistoric decision-making for site location. The database used in this study consists of 94 sites. The logistic-regression analysis of this data indicated a strong relationship between several environmental/geographical variables (climatic and solar exposures, beach quality, island size, site slope and site drainage) and site location in Tebenkof Bay. The log-linear analysis of the data suggested that site area, the indicator of occupation intensity through time and space, was found to be an independent variable of the environmental/geographic variables.

DEBITAGE

The second of UBC's annual **Laboratory of Archaeology field trip** at the end of September involved over 30 students, faculty and family who made an overnight trip to visit archaeological sites on Galiano Island. The first annual overnight field trip in October 1994 was to visit sites in the Interior, and the reconstructed pithouses at the Secwepemc Cultural Centre in Kamloops. These field trips have proven so successful that another is currently being coordinated by Prof. Al Siemens of the Department of Geology early in 1996. . . **Cathy Carlson** and **George Nicholson** will spend the next four months in New Zealand where Cathy has received a joint position between Anthropology and Women's Studies at the University of Auckland. During her sabbatical from Cariboo University College, Cathy will be replaced by **Rick Gurvin**. . . There has been a flurry of students completing graduate degrees recently at UBC. **Dr. Diana French** successfully completed her final defence for her PhD, "Ideology, Power and Politics: The Sociohistorical Implications of the Archaeology of the D'Arcy Island Leper Colony, 1891-1924." Diana was followed by **Brian Thom** in July who presented his MA thesis, "The Dead and the Living: Burial Mounds and Cairns and the Development of Social Class in the Gulf of Georgia Region." Brian currently works for the Stó:lo Tribal Nation in Sardis. . . **Grant Beattie** was the latest to complete his MA with a thesis on "Archaeological Landscapes of the Lower Mainland, British Columbia: A Settlement Study Using a Geographic Information System." And two more PhDs are on the way: **Allison Young** defended her thesis proposal, "Aleut Subsistence and Settlement, Amchitka Island, Alaska" before heading up to Alaska to work for the US Parks Service for the summer and immersing herself in research for her dissertation. In the last month of '95 **Warren Hill** defended his proposal on "Ballcourts and the Emergence of Complex Society in the Soconusco, Chiapas, Mexico." He will spend the next 2 months in Mexico, Guatemala and Belize collecting data on ballcourts to support his dissertation. Warren gave a very interesting talk on these ancient Mexican ballcourts to the ASBC in December. . . This past summer **Prof. Michael Blake** was again at the Scowlitz site in the Fraser Valley. This time with 12 field school students and **Sandra Morrison** as his Teaching Assistant to gather data for her MA thesis which will examine the rectangular house depressions at the site. Sandra and Mike were assisted by two members of the Scowlitz band and one other from the Stó:lo Nation. . . **Christina Lock**, an unclassified student at UBC received an honourable mention in the 1995 Daniel Weetaluktuk Awards for her paper, "An Investigation into the Production of Quartz Microblades at the Scowlitz Site, Fraser Valley, British Columbia." Christina worked as an undergraduate at the Scowlitz site in its first year of investigation, 1992. . . A new crop of UBC archaeologists will be thrown into the pits on Valdes Island next summer. During the first half of the summer **Prof. R.G. Matson** will direct the UBC field school

in the excavation of rectangular house depressions at Shingle Point next summer assisted by MA student, **Eric McLay**. The second half of the summer, R.G. will continue personal research at the site. Eric and R.G. were out there for three weeks in August with a crew of five (including a member of the Lyacksun band) testing the site. Valdes Island is the island north of Galiano in the Gulf Islands. . . With the increase in archaeological projects in B.C., UBC appears to be making quite an impact on archaeology these days. **Andrew Mason** (MA, UBC) has been working in the Queen Charlotte Islands on an off this year for I.R. Wilson Consultants. Andy maintains an office for Wilson here in Vancouver. With *Millennia's* expansion over the past year, two of the *Midden's* editorial staff and former UBC students—**Robbin Chatan** (Publications editor), and **John Maxwell** (Field Editor)—have been retained full-time on the busy *Millennia* staff. While at Arcas, **Vicki Feddema**, **Heather Pratt**, and **Mike Brand**, all past graduate students of UBC, have joined that staff. Many others were out there working as field crew for other consultants. . . **Al Mackie** made the move to the Archaeology Branch from *Millennia* a year ago and is now solidly ensconced as a Project Officer in the Planning and Assessment Programme. . . The ASBC's Branches are all healthy and doing well. **Nanaimo** just elected a new slate of officers, and the Victoria Branch is even planning to be involved in a new dig in the coming year. . . **From Under the Delta**, an exhibit of archaeological basketry and other perishable artifacts, has not yet opened at the Museum of Anthropology. It is really a spectacular show passing on lots of timely knowledge about wet-sites and preservation of these fragile and lovely bits of information that have survived for thousands of years. . . UBC's university-wide **Open House** on October 13th was an extreme success for archaeology at the Museum of Anthropology. The Laboratory of Archaeology opened its teaching lab behind-the-scenes. They displayed information panels, house models, examples of field equipment, and all the paraphernalia available to students in the course of their studies of the prehistoric history of the area. Demonstrations of projects conducted by students and members of the Archaeology Volunteer Associates included a bark analysis of the Keatley Creek site, artifact processing from several sites, a soil analysis of house floors from the Scowlitz site, and demonstrations of flintknapping. During the three 5-6 hour days more than 750 people passed through the room. . . An archaeology course will be offered at UBC in the evenings this coming summer. Course number A103, **Intro to Anthropological Archaeology** will meet Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00-10:00 during the first summer session (May-June). The course will be instructed by **Warren Hill** who says there will be "lots of cool slides from his trip to Mesoamerica". . . **NorCan Consulting** is looking forward to a busy field season this coming summer and is seeking both crew chiefs and crew members. Interested? Contact Dale Walde, the Project Manager (Archaeology) at RR#2, Site 28, Comp 39 in Prince George V2N 2H9, or call (604) 962-5555.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

ARCHAEOLOGY

Carlson, Roy, and Luke Dalla Bona (eds)

1995 *Early Human Occupation in British Columbia*

UBC Press: Vancouver. 288 pp, illus, refs, index. \$65.00 CDN.

Presents the archaeological evidence of the early prehistory of B.C. between 10,500 - 5000 BP; an important contribution to the discipline presenting new archaeological data, interpretations, and syntheses.

Claassen, Cheryl (ed)

1994 *Women in Archaeology*

University of Philadelphia Press: Philadelphia. 252 pp. (Hc) \$36.95 US, (Pb) \$16.95 US.

Fagan, Brian

1995 *Snapshots of the Past*

AltaMira Press: Walnut Creek, CA. 160 pp. (Hc) \$32.00 US; (Pb) \$14.95.

A collection of his "Timelines" columns found in *Archaeology* magazine, as well as several new items written specifically for this book; Fagan reviews issues of interest in contemporary archaeology, including feminist archaeology, site looting, the Eve hypothesis, and the archaeology of slavery.

Kemp, Emory L. (ed)

1996 *Industrial Archaeology: Techniques*

Krieger Publishing: Melbourne, FL. xviii+ 212 pp, illus, notes, refs, index. (Hc) \$32.50 US.

Provides information for historians, archaeologists, architects, engineers, and other professionals pertaining to the recording and research of industrial sites; documents America's industrial heritage through measured drawings, archival photographs, and contextual site histories.

Layton, Robert (ed)

1994 *Who Needs the Past? Indigenous Values and Archaeology.*

One World Archaeology 5. Routledge: London and New York. xxiv + 215 pp, illus, notes, refs, index. (Pb) \$19.95 US.

Provides first-hand evidence of the interest in the human past by non-Western, non-academic communities, dispelling the notions that Western academics have privileged access to archaeological data and interpretation; demonstrates how the knowledge of the past is used as a political resource, the way the archaeological record is differentially valued by traditional societies, and how the past is used as a resource to build group identity.

Lock, Gary, and Zoran Stan (eds)

1995 *Archaeology and Geographical Information Systems*

Taylor & Francis: London. 392pp, illus, refs, index. (Hc) \$99.00 CDN.

Provides a European perspective on GIS and archaeology; contributions by leading researchers from 11 European nations; includes intra-site analysis, landscape analysis, and cultural resource management.

Shennan, Stephen J. (ed)

1994 *Archaeological Approaches to Cultural Identity*

One World Archaeology 10. Routledge: London and New York. xxv + 317 pp, b/w illus, refs, index. (Pb) \$24.95 US.

Provides a wide range of theoretical perceptions concerning the implications of cultural identity in archaeology; illustrates both the nature and limits of archaeological claims to knowledge of the past, the ways in which material culture relates to other aspects of cultural identity, and the significance of changing patterns of cultural variation in the past.

Stone, David Leigh

1995 *Wreck Diver's Guide to Sailing Ship Artifacts of the 19th Century*

Underwater Archaeological Society of British Columbia: Vancouver. 94 pp, 83 figs incl 26 b/w photos, bib, index. \$19.95 CDN.

An aid for scuba divers to interpret B.C.'s older shipwreck sites; depicts nautical fittings in use and after years under water; explains how the pieces once fitted together and what they can tell us about the vessel.

1994 *Vancouver's Undersea Heritage: Shipwrecks and Submerged Cultural Sites in Burrard Inlet and Howe Sound*

Stone, David Leigh

Underwater Archaeological Society of British Columbia: Vancouver. 71 pp, 6 figs., 21 b/w photos, bib, index. (Pb) \$11.00 CDN.

Documents the UASBC's 4-year exploration of 20 submerged cultural sites in Burrard Inlet and Howe Sound-shipwrecks, a prehistoric midden site (Belcarra Park), docks, and waterfront industries; depicts the history and material remains of the sites, plus recommendations for enhancing their preservation or educational potential.

ETHNOLOGY AND MATERIAL CULTURE

Birchwater, Sage

1995 *Chiwid.*

New Star Books: Vancouver. 126 pp. (Pb) \$16.00 CDN.

Presents the story of Chiwid, a Tsilhqot'in woman in the wilderness of the west Chilcotin Plateau; told by a number of Chilcotin oldtimers and elders; provides a poignant portrait of Chiwid and the Chilcotin during a time of transition in the twentieth century.

Cole, Douglas

1995 *Captured Heritage: The Scramble for Northwest Coast Artifacts.*

UBC Press: Vancouver. xxi+373 pps., maps, illus, notes, index. (Pb) \$ 24.95 CDN.

A new second edition of the original 1985 publication; examines the "scramble" for Northwest Coast ethnographic objects and skeletal material during the development of anthropological museums in Canada and the U.S. between 1875 and the 1930s; includes a new preface outlining recent developments in repatriation of Native cultural materials.

Eaton, Diane, and Shiela Urbanek

1995 *Paul Kane's Great Nor-West*

UBC Press: Vancouver. xvii+ 158 pps., illus, refs, index. (Hc) \$39.95 CDN.

Draws on Kane's diary, published journal, sketches and oil paintings documenting traditional Native societies of the Northwest from 1845-1848 to recreate his experiences among the Native societies he saw.

Hanna, Darwin, and Mamie Henry (eds)

1995 *OUR TELLINGS: Interior Salish Stories of the Nlha7káp̓mx People*

UBC Press: Vancouver. xix+ 217 pps., illus, refs, index. (Hc) \$39.95 CDN.

Presents a collection of Nlha7káp̓mx oral traditions and legends from the Fraser, Thompson and Nicola Valleys of southwestern B.C. as told by 20 elders; translated to retain much of the colour and detail of these stories and legends.

Turner, Nancy J.

1996 *Food Plants of the Coastal First Peoples*

UBC Press and Royal British Columbia Museum: Vancouver. 228 pps, maps, illus, refs, index. (Pb) \$24.95 CDN.

Revised and updated edition of the original 1975 handbook describing traditional Native plant utilization among the Northwest Coast societies; provides a valuable reference for plant utilization, harvesting and preparation techniques employed.

BOOK REVIEWS

An Ambitious Synthesis

The Prehistory of the Northwest Coast by R.G. Matson and Gary Coupland presents a synthesis of the current archaeology for the entire Northwest Coast culture area. This book will be used as a reference by those who have an interest in the prehistory of the Pacific Northwest Coast of North America, including both professional and avocational archaeologists alike, not to mention students and interested lay people. In recognition of the significance of this book the Editorial Committee has decided to obtain reviews of this publication from two perspectives—the research-oriented viewpoint of the academic archaeologist, and the applied archaeological stance of the archaeological consultant. For these reviews I have asked Alan McMillan from Douglas College and Bjorn Simonsen from the Bastion Group to tackle this assignment. Their reviews below offer some interesting inter-related and divergent insights into the strengths and weaknesses of this publication.

Robbin Chatan
Publications Editor

The Academic

This ambitious synthesis examines present knowledge of the prehistory of the entire Northwest Coast, from Yakutat Bay in Alaska to northern California. Various summaries of specific coastal regions have appeared in print before, but this is the first book-length examination of the entire area. Throughout this work the central focus is on the origins of cultural complexity and social inequality. Chapter titles such as "The Emergence of Distinctive Coastal Cultures," "The Development of Cultural Complexity," "The Achievement of Cultural Complexity," and "Continuation of the Developed Northwest Coast Pattern" clearly indicate the theoretical emphasis of this book. Matson and Coupland correctly stress that these issues are not restricted to regional culture history, but have much broader anthropological relevance.

Although the book deals with the entire Northwest Coast not all regions receive equal coverage. In fact, a very strong bias favouring the Strait of Georgia region is evident. This is hardly surprising as many areas of the coast have received very little archaeological attention, while the culture history of the Strait of Georgia is comparatively well known. Matson's research at the Glenrose Cannery and Crescent Beach sites features prominently in the interpretations of culture history presented here (as, to a lesser extent, does Coupland's work on the Skeena River).

Any book of this type has to interpret

the archaeological evidence in ways that will be hotly disputed by other researchers. Matson and Coupland take stands on a number of controversial aspects of Northwest Coast culture history. Their contention that the Old Cordilleran culture is "a probable descendant of Clovis," reaching the coast along the rivers from the interior, is opposed by other researchers who interpret the same archaeological materials as evidence of an early coastal culture, only later extending up the rivers to the interior (see, for example, Carlson 1990). Their rejection of the coastal migration route as a feasible option for initial human arrival will also be challenged by many researchers, particularly as there is increasing evidence that large areas of now-submerged land were exposed off the outer coast at the end of the Pleistocene. Matson and Coupland also maintain that the full achievement of the developed Northwest Coast cultural pattern was only reached about 2000 years ago, a time much later than that argued by a number of other writers (see, for example, Carlson and Hobler 1993)

Numerous more minor points of contention could be raised. Matson and Coupland state that estimates of Northwest Coast aboriginal populations have ranged between about 100,000 and 200,000 persons, giving the impression that the latter figure is at the high end of the range. This is not the case; the 100,000 figure is simply outdated (a 1928 estimate) while the 200,000

THE PREHISTORY OF THE NORTHWEST COAST

by R.G. MATSON and GARY COUPLAND

Academic Press, San Diego, 1995.
364 pp., illus., index, bibl. \$69
U.S. (hardbound)

estimate is considered "conservative" by its source (Boyd 1990:135). Actual populations are likely to have been higher, and estimates as large as 1.2 million people have been advanced (Ramenofsky 1987:7). Recent archaeological surveys on various portions of the coast suggest that precontact aboriginal populations consistently have been underestimated.

As a related point, Matson and Coupland frequently interpret the archaeological data in the framework of the ethnographic pattern of seasonal movements, but recent studies from several areas of the coast suggest that, for these areas at least, this was an early historic adaptation to reduced population levels. Also, while Matson and Coupland defend their decision to use the historically familiar names for ethnographic groups, such as "Kwakiutl" and "Nootka," long rejected by the people to whom they have been applied, this somewhat grates on modern sensibilities.

A number of excellent maps clearly locate sites being discussed in the text. In general, however, the book is not extensively illustrated. Most of the drawings of artifacts and features, largely taken from the original sources, are of good quality and informative. Most of the photographs, however, are simply group shots of artifacts, many of which are uninspiring.

Matson and Coupland maintain that their book is primarily intended "for ar-

chaeologists of other culture areas, for graduate students, for the interested public, and for courses on Northwest Coast archaeology." The primary market served will be a scholarly one, as is typical of Academic Press publications. Archaeologists involved in teaching and research in northwest Coast prehistory will find much to contemplate, to digest, and to debate in these pages. This is not a book written for the general public, however, except for those with a strong interest and previous familiarity with the subject. At times the descriptive details of artifact and faunal inventories make for heavy plodding through the pages.

The price (listed as \$69.00 U.S.; the UBC bookstore sells it for \$106 Can.) Will also discourage all but the most committed student or general reader. Certainly, however, this important synthesis of present knowledge on Northwest Coast prehistory belongs on the shelves of all those actively involved in the archaeology of this area.

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Alan D. McMillan

Alan D. McMillan is a faculty member in the Department of Social Sciences at Douglas College in New Westminster. He is also an adjunct professor in the Department of Archaeology at Simon Fraser University. He has conducted archaeological research at various locations on the B.C. coast, particularly among the Nuu-chah-nulth people of western Vancouver Island.

The Consultant

The recent publication by Academic Press, co-authored by R.G. Matson and Gary Coupland is a long overdue synthesis of what is presently known about pre-Euroamerican culture history within the Northwest Coast area. It is also fitting that the authors have dedicated their work to Charles E. Borden who had such a tremendous influence on the development of archaeology as a discipline within this culture area.

Since my instructions from the Publications Editor of *The Midden* were to review the Matson and Coupland book from the point of view of archaeological resource management, I have tried to restrict myself to this aspect of archaeology. This proved to be a very difficult task since the book contains only scant reference to resource management issues. The few bits that there are, can be found in the first three chapters and a fleeting reference, or two, in the final section of the last chapter (Chapter 9), under the title "The Future of Northwest Coast Archaeology" (pp. 307-315).

Having stated the above, I have to be fair to the authors by pointing out that it was not their intention to publish a book about the history of archaeology in the Northwest Coast culture area—which would have to include archaeological resource management issues—but to provide a synthesis of the results of archaeological research for this region. Even to attempt a summary of archaeological resource management within this vast region would require another volume and would have to include, not only British Columbia, but at least five states and the major involvement of a number of U.S. Federal agencies, to boot. This is not to say, however, that the authors might have considered including, at least a chapter on archaeological resource management topics and issues. Had they done so, they might have noted that, at least for British Columbia, the greatest source of archaeological information for most parts of the province is in the form of unpublished Consultants' reports, most of which are only available from the Culture Library in Victoria. The authors are to be congratulated for having made use of some of this material. However, much more could have been accessed—albeit with some considerable effort on their part. This lack of data says more about the sorry state of ar-

chaeological report-dissemination in British Columbia, than the research efforts of the book authors. It should also be noted, that the situation in adjacent U.S. states, is only slightly better.

I have heard some criticism from consulting business colleagues, that the Academic Press publication does not address current trends in Northwest Coast archaeology to any adequate degree. This criticism must be viewed in the context of what is happening within the discipline of archaeology in the region and, for the purposes of the present review, in the B.C. context. Personally, I do not see much change in the approaches to archaeological research within the academic community from that of the past two, to three, decades. Most archaeologists seem preoccupied with the politics of archaeology and with trying to hold on to their jobs. This leaves little time for research. There is also a lack of incentive for archaeologists to explore new approaches and to initiate new research projects that are innovative, in the current context of shrinking resources, public apathy and the graying of the archaeological establishment. Perhaps the recently rekindled interest in archaeology by First Nations people—seen by some archaeologists as a threat—will spur us on to greater things. The authors hint at this in the final chapter of the book but, unfortunately, this important issue is not explored further.

I must end on a positive note by saying that, in my opinion, the authors have done an admirable job of providing scholars of Northwest Coast archaeology a good summary of current knowledge of past cultural development and adaptation within their topic area. This book will provide both the armchair and serious scholar of Northwest Coast archaeology, a means of getting up to date on what is known about the past culture history of this complex and fascinating region of North America.

Bjorn Simonsen

Bjorn Simonsen has been involved in the cultural resource management field since the 1970s, first as Provincial Archaeologist in Victoria, and since the 1980s, as the principal consulting archaeologist to the Bastion Group. Bjorn has dealt directly with archaeological heritage issues in B.C. in both the government and private angles.

BOOK REVIEW

BASKING SEA LIONS, DR. LYMAN!

In many areas of the the Pacific Northwest Coast the existing archaeological record remains relatively incomplete or lacking despite the extensive ethnohistoric and ethnographic documentation on the indigenous Native societies. The coastal region of Oregon has been long considered a part of the Pacific Northwest Coast culture area, and is an example where the archaeological record is relatively deficient. Although archaeological investigations span a twenty-five year period on the Oregon coast, only a few sites have been adequately sampled. Of these, only for a few have the data been properly studied, analysed and reported prior to 1985.

This publication by Lyman, with contributions from three of his former students, is an attempt to both elucidate and rectify this paucity of the archaeological data from the Oregon coast, and to present a testable model for the development of the late prehistoric coastal cultural manifestations. The analytical and methodological issues which Lyman examines in this book have relevance to both archaeological research in general, and to coastal and shell midden archaeology in particular.

During his research on prehistoric mammal exploitation in coastal assemblages from Oregon, Lyman encountered certain problems pertaining to adequate data sampling in archaeological strategies. The book consists of essentially four parts: 1) an introduction to and critical evaluation of the previous archaeological investigations and methodology applied on the Oregon coast up to 1989 (chapters 1, 2 and 3); 2) a critique of the theoretical approaches used to explain the emergence of the prehistoric coastal manifestations on the Pacific Northwest Coast, and the proposal of his own model for the development of the Late Littoral stage cultures on the Oregon coast (chapter 4); 3) the analysis of the archaeological data collected from three excavated coastal sites (chapters 5, 6 and 7); and 4) the testing of

his model with the archaeological data from these three sites (chapter 8), and conclusions (chapter 9).

Chapter 1 sets the tone for this book by explicitly stating its purpose and focus. Lyman provides a description of the present and known prehistoric coastal environmental conditions, and gives a brief summary of the ethnohistoric and ethnographic record for the traditional Native societies found on the Oregon Coast. One of the themes that he pursues is to evaluate a testable model for the prehistoric cultural development seen in the existing archaeological record of the Oregon coast based on "hard" archaeological data. The second, and related issue, is to determine the reasons for the existing "knowledge deficiencies" which are found in the archaeological record of the Oregon coast.

Factors such as methods of data acquisition and quantification can affect the "concordance," or harmony, between anthropological/archaeological theory on one hand, and the analytical techniques employed within the research design on the other. As Lyman illustrates, this "concordance" seems to have been lacking in much of the prior archaeological research on the Oregon Coast, partly due to sampling problems, particularly sample size. The relatively low number of sites hitherto investigated, and the uneven spatial and temporal dispersal of these sites, has affected the present archaeological database and the interpretations based on it. He further notes that for the most part these excavated sites have not been adequately sampled to construct robust interpretations. The statistical study by Virginia M. Betz presented in chapter 3 suggests that there may be a correlation between the sampled volume at a site and the number of artifacts recovered.

In chapter 4 Lyman presents a review and critique of recent selected anthropological and archaeological models used to explain the development of the prehistoric and ethnographic cultural manifestations

PREHISTORY OF THE OREGON COAST: THE EFFECTS OF EXCAVATION STRATEGIES AND ASSEMBLAGE SIZE ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL INQUIRY

by R. LEE LYMAN with contributions by Ann C. Bennett, Virginia M. Betz, and Linda A. Clark.

Academic Press, Inc., San Diego, 1991.

391 pgs, 83 figs., 92 tpls., 5 apps., bib., index. Hardcover. \$66.00 US.

found along the Pacific Northwest Coast. In all these models Lyman observes that the emphasis tends to be on explaining the development of the ethno-graphically documented cultural traits. He (p.100) writes; "While certainly laudable, I wonder if this focus has resulted in what I perceive as less detailed attention to reporting basic archaeological data in general, and less attention to the building of robust methods for testing theories of cultural evolution."

He then presents his "conjectural model" for the *in situ* development of the Late Littoral stage cultural manifestations found on the Oregon coast. This model is partly based on the previous work of C.W. Meighan (1965) who devised the culture historical schema for the region, and the work of Kenneth Ames (1985). It is essentially an expansion and refinement of the model that was initially presented in an article by R. Lee Lyman and Richard E. Ross (1988).

In chapters 5, 6 and 7 Lyman and two of his former students, Ann C. Bennett and

Linda A. Clark, describe the excavations and the data recovered from three important coastal sites: the Umpqua/Eden site, the Seal Rock site, and the Whale Cove site. Lyman assumed that the data from these three sites could be used to test his model of coastal cultural development because these sites all had relatively large artifact assemblages with good temporal depth and sufficient spatial coverage. However, because these sites were excavated by different researchers at different times, reflecting different research strategies and retrieval techniques used, these chapters offer an interesting case study in inter-site comparison. It also provides a cautionary tale about curatorial attrition that can affect stored data from past excavations.

For all three sites Lyman has analysed the mammalian faunal assemblage, with a particular interest in the pinniped (seal and sea lion) remains. In contrast to the thorough analyses of the mammalian bone, he presents only cursory descriptions of other vertebrate (fish and bird) and invertebrate (mollusc shell) remains. Although the artifacts from each site are examined, the analyses are relatively uneven in detail, due, in part, to the expertise of the researchers. This is particularly the case with the Umpqua/Eden artifact assemblage that Lyman himself analyzed, and which he describes being "limited to descriptive statements" (p. 105). The artifact analyses for Seal Rock by Clark, and of Whale Cove by Bennett, on the other hand, are more detailed and thorough. Despite these discrepancies, the categorization of data types employed makes these three assemblages roughly comparable in order to discern temporal and spatial trends.

The archaeological data that Lyman emphasises to test his model of culture change is evidence for increased sedentism, continuous site occupancy, the appearance of storage technology, exotic trade goods, larger and more complex tool assemblages, and faunal remains that emphasise a more focussed and specialised

economy. The transition from Early Littoral adaptations to Late Littoral ones should be characterised by a shift from residential mobility to increased sedentism and site permanence. Although houses do appear in the Early Littoral stage, they seem to become more common by the Late Littoral stage. There is also a shift from a "generalist forager lifeway" of the Early Littoral adaptations to a "logistical collector lifeway" of the Late Littoral which is reflected in both the artifact and faunal data. His investigations of the data from the three coastal sites seem to suggest that Early Littoral adaptations may have been developing into Late Littoral manifestations as early as 3000 BP, which is about a millennium earlier than previously presumed.

The book also contains five appendices at the back. Three of these are data tables for the three sites discussed in the book, including sections on artifacts and butchery marks on the mammalian faunal remains. Appendix D consists of notes for the identification of pinniped faunal elements. A list of human burial data from the Oregon coast is presented in Appendix E.

Overall, Lyman has produced a significant contribution to the understanding of the late prehistoric cultural developments on the Oregon Coast. His methodology of thoroughly analysing certain data categories to test his model works well in this case. However, the cursory treatment of other important data aggregates, such as mollusc and fish remains, means that his interpretations are not as robust as they would be if these other data were as thoroughly studied. Within the text he readily admits this inadequacy.

The most important contribution of this book, I believe, is the discussion concerning the "concordance" of archaeological methodology and theory. This is a problem that all archaeologists have to deal with in their research. Models to explain the past can only be tested by assemblages from well-sampled sites. Through-

out the book he stresses that variables such as excavation strategies and sample size (either as area and/or volume or as the frequency of recovered artifacts) can "potentially affect the conclusions of specific human behavioural dynamics" (p.278).

The formation of the existing archaeological record has resulted in a "restricted perception" of the prehistoric cultural manifestations along the Oregon Coast. This observation can be applied equally to other parts of the Pacific Northwest Coast. The book was primarily written for an academic readership versed in archaeological jargon, methodology, and concepts, and is of more interest to specialists. For those of us who are faced professionally with the issues confronted by Lyman, this book is an invaluable reference, as it is a cautionary tale.

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Robbin Chatan

Robbin Chatan is the Publications Editor for *The Midden*. He is taking a leave of absence from his PhD studies in the Department of Archaeology, University of Calgary, and has been working as an archaeologist for Millennia Research. He has an interest in zooarchaeology, particularly marine vertebrate and invertebrate fauna, and has analysed fish bone and mollusc shell assemblages from the Pacific Northwest Coast and Oceania.

CONFERENCES

1996

March 14-16 **NWAC, Northwest Anthropological Conference, 49th Annual**
"A Celebration in Memory of Frank C. Leonhardy"

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, Moscow, Idaho

This year's conference will recognise the contributions of Frank Leonhardy to Northwest anthropology. In keeping with this theme several sessions on Plateau archaeology will be organised. However, conference organisers strongly encourage papers and symposia on any topic from all subdisciplines of anthropology.

Call for Abstracts: Abstracts are required for all symposia and presentations. To be accepted, the abstract must contain a clear statement of purpose, and address the importance of the findings for anthropology. It should not exceed 250 words. If possible, submit abstracts in both hard copy and on disk either in DOS/MSWord or Word Perfect (*less than WP 6.0 please*).

February 15, 1996—deadline for pre-registration and abstracts to:

NWAC Chair, Donald E. Taylor, Department of Anthropology, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83844-1110

April 10-14 **SAA, Society for American Archaeology, 61st Annual Meeting**

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana, USA

Further information: Society for American Archaeology, 900 Second Street NE, Washington, DC, 20002-3557. Tel. (202) 789-8200; fax (202) 789-0284

Direct questions concerning proposed ideas or content of presentations to:

1996 Program Chairs, Paul Fish and Suzanne Fish, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA 85721.

Tel. (520) 621-2556; fax. (520) 621-2976; E-mail: archaeol@ccit.arizona.edu

April 20-21 **UASBC, Underwater Archaeological Society of B.C., 11th Annual**
Shipwrecks Conference

VANCOUVER MARITIME MUSEUM, Vancouver, B.C.

Six speakers tentatively scheduled for the conference will present papers on April 20th followed by dinner. Papers include *Run Silent, Run Cheap: Wreck Hunting in the Kootenays* (John Pollack); *The Legacy of Truk Lagoon* (Neil McDaniel); *Amphorae: Shipping Containers of the Ancient World* (Dr. Hector Williams); *The 'Transpac' Expedition 1995: Canada's First High-Tec Expedition* (Ericaleigh Haley); *The History of Hard-Hat Diving in B.C.* (Fred Rogers); *Recycling Maritime Heritage: Ships as Breakwaters* (Rick James); *War on Our Doorstep: The Secret War on the West Coast* (Brendan Coyle). A tour of International Hardsuits will take place on April 21st.

Contact: *Mike Paris, Tel. (604) 738-1217; or Tom Beasley, Tel. (604) 294-4882*

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May 2-5

CAA, Canadian Archaeological Association, 29th Annual Meeting

HALIFAX, N.S.

Communication, including the public awareness of archaeology, is the central theme of this year's conference. One suggested session which has tremendous relevance to B.C.'s archaeological community is the use of archaeology in treaty negotiations and land claims issues.

Conference coordinator: Dr. Stephen A. Davis, Dept. of Anthropology, St. Mary's University, Halifax, N.S. B3H 3C3.

Tel. (902) 420-5631; Fax (902) 420-5119; E-mail: sdavis@husky1.stmarys.ca

Program coordinator: Rob Ferguson, Dept. of Canadian Heritage, Historic Properties, Upper Water Street, Halifax, N.S. B3J 1S9.

Tel. (902) 426-9509; Fax (902) 426-7012; E-mail: rob_ferguson@pch.gc.ca

October (TBA)

B.C. Archaeology Forum, 5th Annual

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN B.C., Prince George, B.C.

Contact: Tanya Hoffman. Tel. 1-800-667-UNBC, local 5671

E-mail: hoffman@ugrad.unbc.edu

Nov. 14-17

CHACMOOL, 29th Annual Conference

"EUREKA!! The Archaeology of Innovation and Science"

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY, Alberta

This year's conference will focus on the beginnings of science and further innovation from around the world as determined by the archaeological record. The conference's aim is to reveal how archaeologists identify various techniques, technologies and sciences that were used by past cultures. In this situation they have identified science as "systematic observation leading towards an understanding of the universe in a multitude of cultural contexts." Avocational archaeologists, students and professional archaeologists are all invited to participate in the conference.

First call for papers: Deadline for completed abstracts is March 15, 1996.

Suggested session categories and topics include Communication Systems; Numerical Systems and Calendrics; Public Works, Health/Healing; Domestication; Hydrology; Transportation; Pyrotechnology; Warfare; Exchange Systems; Archaeology of the Industrial Revolution; Food-gathering, Processing and Storage.

Contact: 1996 Conference Committee, Department of Archaeology, University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive N.W., Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4.

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