

THE MIDDEN

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The Midden

Publication of the Archaeological Society of British Columbia

Editor: Kathryn Bernick

Submissions and exchange publications should be directed to the Editor. Contributions on subjects germane to B.C. archaeology are welcomed: maximum length 1,500 words, no footnotes, and only a brief bibliography (if necessary at all). Guidelines available. Telephone inquiries: 873-5958.

The next issue of *The Midden* will appear in mid-February 1991.

Contributors this issue: Brian Aplan, Kathryn Bernick, Robert M. Galois, Richard Mackie, Phyllis Mason.

Production Assistants: Vicki Feddema, Phyllis Mason, Barbara Stopa.

THE COVER: *Museum display shows an Interior Salish headman wearing a haiqua (dentalium shell) necklace. Photo courtesy of the Royal B.C. Museum, Victoria, B.C.*

Subscriptions and Mailing: Helmi Braches

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The Society

The **Archaeological Society of British Columbia** is dedicated to the protection of archaeological resources and the spread of archaeological knowledge.

Meetings featuring illustrated lectures are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except July and August) at 8:00 p.m. in the Vancouver Museum Auditorium. Visitors and new members are welcome!

NEXT MEETINGS:

- January 9 Dr. John Oleson (U.Vic): recent archaeological work in Humeima, Jordan.
- February 13 Tom Stone: the Canadian Conservation Institute and special problems in the conservation of archaeological materials.

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Affiliated Chapters:

Fraser Valley. Meetings featuring illustrated lectures are held on the third Tuesday of each month (September to May) at 7:45 p.m. on the Fraser Valley College campus in Abbotsford. President: Thelma McIntyre (853-1495). Membership Secretary: Andy Purdy (823-4920).

Fraser Valley archaeology headed toward oblivion

PROJECTIONS of one million people moving to the Lower Mainland in the next twenty years have dire implications for archaeological sites. It is none too soon to raise the alarm.

In a series of articles in the *Vancouver Sun* last month, planning experts looked into a crystal ball and described the best scenario. With a regional master plan, it appears, we can enjoy the benefits of city living (a 10 minute commute to work, cappuccino and fresh baguettes at the corner deli) without sacrificing agricultural land or wildlife sanctuaries (the design calls for high density, rapid transit linked, park studded business-retail-residential centres positioned strategically between lush farms).

Archaeological sites?

I'm not surprised that the planners neglected to consider the impact of mega-construction on the archaeological resource. As the recent municipal elections in Delta and Richmond clearly demonstrated, environmental lobby groups have political clout. Archaeological issues seldom make headlines or sway votes.

More alarming is the realization that even if planners consider potential impact on archaeological sites, they will probably conclude from the paucity of information that in the Lower Mainland sites are neither numerous nor important and can be dealt with adequately on

an individual basis as they are under current policy.

The Fraser Valley, which is slated to receive the bulk of the population growth, has never been systematically surveyed. (Some recorded sites haven't been evaluated by a professional archaeologist for more than 25 years.) Surely, there must be many sites in this region, which was one of the most densely populated places north of Mexico.

Unless something changes, simultaneous site discovery and destruction, such as the recent episode in Hatzic, will become commonplace.

Moreover, it isn't as though we know much about the prehistory of the Fraser Valley. There have only been a handful of small-scale excavations — no synthesis, no publications for the general reader, no substance for museum displays. A piece-meal approach to resource management risks losing forever the still unrecovered story of this key area that linked the peoples of the Coast and the Interior.

Planners may succeed in creating a livable Pacific Fraser region, but unless current practices change, fundamentally and soon, Fraser Valley archaeological sites will end



Salvage excavations at the Marpole site (DhRs 1) in 1955. UBC Laboratory of Archaeology photo.

up like Vancouver's — nibbled away to near extinction.

The Musqueam find themselves today in the unenviable position of having to mount a public campaign to save the vestiges of one of their ancestral villages, the 2,000-year-old Marpole site about which they know very little. Not so long ago it was known to Vancouverites as The Great Fraser Midden and boasted five-metre-deep mounds of stratified deposits. Despite numerous excavations, most of them rescuing material from the path of yet another bulldozer, and the importance of the site for regional culture history (it is the "type site"

for the Marpole phase), there is no comprehensive report. Now, the last bits are threatened by plans to expand the Fraser Arms Hotel, which occupies much of the former midden area.

Last month the Musqueam Band announced plans "to acquire the site of the Marpole midden and develop a world-class cultural centre devoted to the study, preservation, and sharing of the traditions, heritage, and culture of [Musqueam] people."

I fully support this project and urge everyone to aid the cause by writing letters, as requested by Chief Wendy Grant: to Vancouver

Mayor and City Council opposing the Fraser Arms' rezoning application and any further development on the Marpole site; to Tom Siddon, federal Minister of Indian Affairs, requesting immediate action to acquire the Marpole site as part of the Musqueam's land settlement; and to Jack Wiesgerber, provincial Minister of Native Affairs, requesting immediate action to preserve and protect the site.

After doing all that, you might give some thought to the future of the Fraser Valley sites. How can they be spared the fate of Marpole?

— Kathryn Bernick

North Coast survey project

DAVID ARCHER (Univ. of Calgary) recently completed the second of a two-season inventory survey near Kitkatla, on Porcher Island and adjacent small islands. Forty-five previously unrecorded sites were located and mapped, including large village middens with well-preserved house depressions, small shell middens representing camp sites, and stone-wall fish traps.

Two of the village sites, Archer told *The Midden*, feature long, narrow house depressions quite different in shape from the type common in the Prince Rupert Harbour area. This suggests local variation in house forms at some time in the past. At another site, he found 6-7 m deep midden deposits,

probably representing a very long period of occupation.

In conjunction with the Kitkatla work, Archer continued survey work in Prince Rupert Harbour, from where he now has a sample of nearly 200 sites recorded and mapped in detail. About one-third are village sites. In his Ph.D. thesis on prehistoric and early historic settlement patterns in the Prince Rupert area, Archer hopes to explore changing patterns of social organization as reflected in village plans.

This past summer's fieldwork was administered by the Tsimshian Tribal Council with financial contributions by the BC Heritage Trust, Challenge 90, and Employment Plus. □

The Archaeology Branch

by Brian Apland

AN AWARENESS of the past is a characteristic that is uniquely human. Understanding our past gives us an appreciation for who we are today, which is why we often enshrine our past in legend, tradition, sacred ceremony, and mythology. British Columbia has a long and diverse human history spanning more than 12,000 years. Our only link to 99% of that history is locked in archaeological sites. It is a tenuous link, and the stories each site holds can only be extracted through the painstaking and sophisticated science of archaeology. We lose major chapters in that story when archaeological sites are destroyed by natural erosion, industrial or private development, or by the uneducated actions of illicit relic hunters.

There is not much we can do about the ongoing erosional problems created by nature, but we can influence the unnecessary loss of archaeological information caused by people. British Columbia took steps to address this concern as early as 1925 with the passage of an Act to protect historic objects. Today, the *Heritage Conservation Act* (1979) encourages and facilitates the protection and conservation of heritage property throughout the province.

The Archaeology Branch was established in 1988 to encourage and promote the protection, conservation, development and public appreciation of archaeological resources throughout the province. The branch was preceded by the Archaeology Programs Section of the Heritage Conservation Branch (1977-88) and, prior to that, the administrative arm of the Archaeological Sites Advisory Board (1971-77).

The Resource Management and Resource Information programs of the Archaeology Branch are designed to provide an effective mechanism through which archaeological sites can be properly managed. Increasing our understanding and appreciation of B.C.'s prehistoric and historic cultural development is the basis of our mandate.

B.C.'s provincial archaeological site inventory program was initiated in the early 1960s and was one of the first of its kind in Canada. Now referred to as Resource Information Services, this program provides a central coordinated forum for reporting and documenting all archaeological sites throughout the province. Approximately 18,000 sites are presently recorded.

During the 1970s the Federal Government began the Canadian Heritage Information Network. British Columbia was the first province to join and actively support that network. Presently, an Archaeology Branch staff member is the Coordinator of the National Archaeological Sites Data Base Working Group.

Through the Archaeology Branch's resource management program, activities, which may affect archaeological sites, are reviewed and potential adverse impacts on those sites addressed. Archaeological researchers provide justification for any planned work by applying for a permit. This enables the Branch to monitor sites making sure nothing is altered without good reason.

The resource management program also reviews, on a province wide basis, proposed developments to prevent inadvertent damage to archaeological sites. To do this, the Branch is involved in provincial and federal/provincial environmental review processes for large scale industrial developments such as mines, hydroelectric dams, and pipelines. In the case of small scale developments, such as subdivision or oil and gas exploration sites, the Branch examines proposals referred

by colleague approval agencies. In 1989, more than 1700 small scale developments were reviewed, and 121 permits to conduct archaeological studies were issued.

Working with our colleague ministries the Archaeology Branch also oversees archaeological and other heritage resources that may be affected by other government programs. Under an agreement with the B.C. Forest Service for example, important historic trails in Crown Forests are identified, commemorated by designation as Provincial Heritage Sites pursuant to the *Heritage Conservation Act*, and a jointly approved management plan is prepared to provide future protection and management of the trail. In 1987, the MacKenzie Trail from Quesnel to Bella Coola was the first to be designated under the agreement. A section of the Hudson's Bay Brigade trail in the Cascades was designated in 1989, and six additional heritage trails are currently under consideration.

Another example of inter-agency cooperation in the protection and management of archaeological sites is an agreement between the Archaeology Branch and the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, whereby the MOTHS regional and district staff advise the Archaeology Branch of construction plans on an annual basis. The branch reviews those plans and

identifies which proposals may affect archaeological sites. The MOTHS then provides for appropriate procedures to mitigate any such concerns.

A recent and major example of cooperative action was the case of a prehistoric village located at the foot of the Tsawwassen ferry terminal causeway (DGRs 2). Ministry of Transportation and Highways staff provided the branch with detailed plans of the proposed causeway widening, including a proposal to construct a major access for the Tsawwassen Indian Reserve requested by the Band. Examination of the provincial archaeological site inventory revealed a conflict with the ancient village site.

The branch arranged for a team of professional archaeologists (Arcas Consulting Archaeologists Ltd.) to investigate the site, assess its significance and what impacts would occur, and recommend appropriate options to mitigate the loss of any important information. The site was found to be highly significant and recommendations ranged from avoiding major portions of the site to retrieving the archaeological data before construction proceeded.

As the major impacts identified were associated primarily with the proposed reserve access road and the land in question was reserve

land, the branch brought the Band and Highways together to select the most appropriate course of action. The alignment chosen required a major archaeological excavation. Information gathered from the project will now provide a solid base for the Band to develop an interpretation centre near the ferry terminal, demonstrating to the public the interesting story of the Band's lengthy history at that location.

A campaign to make people more aware of the diverse and intriguing archaeological heritage we have in British Columbia has recently been initiated by the Archaeology Branch. We feel public education is the most effective vehicle for ensuring long-term site management and protection. A poster with the theme *Listen: the stones are speaking* is now available along with a general introductory brochure. Over the next few years, we hope to gradually make available a series of theme-specific brochures discussing the many different types of archaeological sites found throughout the province. □

Brian Aplan is Director of the Archaeology Branch, Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture. He's an archaeologist and lives in Victoria.

Christmas Gift Idea

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Include your name and address and the name and complete mailing address of the lucky recipient! Please make cheque or postal money order in Canadian funds payable to the Archaeological Society of British Columbia.

Pit yields knives

Mike Rousseau found five asymmetric basalt knives in the bottom of a roasting pit he excavated last summer at the Parker site (*EdRi 25*) in Oregon Jack Creek valley near Ashcroft. Both the style of the bifaces and an associated radiocarbon date estimate of 3130 ± 100 BP indicate a Shuswap horizon component.

CAA seeks winner

The Canadian Archaeological Association is soliciting entries for the 1990 Public Writing Award competition. Submissions, suggestions, and requests for further information should be directed to the B.C. committee member, Geordie Howe, Dept. of Archaeology, Simon Fraser Univ., Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6.

Branch moves uptown

The Archaeology Branch, the Heritage Conservation Branch, the BC Heritage Trust, and the Ministry Library have a new address: 800 Johnson Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4. Phone numbers remain unchanged. Their former premises at 333 Quebec St. are being used by Royal BC Museum staff, who have to temporarily vacate the curatorial tower while asbestos is removed.

Museum embraces pots

The new wing of the UBC Museum of Anthropology opens on Tuesday, December 11, 1990. It was built to house a 600-piece collection of European ceramics donated by Dr. Walter C. Koerner. Most of the items are tin-glazed earthenware from southern, central, and western Europe.

GST: the good and the bad

THE GOOD NEWS is that there will be no GST on ASBC membership fees or *Midden* subscriptions. Since the ASBC is a registered charitable organization with gross annual revenues less than \$30,000, it is not required to collect GST.

The bad news is that the ASBC will (assuming the tax becomes law) have to pay GST for operational expenses such as postage and printing, but will only be able to recover 50% of the tax it pays. Increased costs will have to be met and the executive committee will be watching closely to see how much money is involved before making recommendations. □

Legal battle enlists archaeologists

Culturally modified trees (CMTs) made the news last month during a conflict over logging the Tsitika valley on northern Vancouver Island.

First, the Tlowitsis-Mumtagila Indian Band retained Arcas Ltd. to examine a contested cut-block for CMTs and any other evidence of Native use of the area. When the band then applied for an injunction to prevent MacMillan Bloedel from logging, until their land claims are resolved, Arnoud Stryd and Geordie

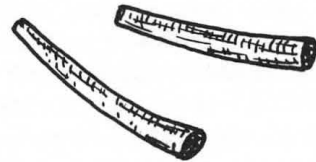
Howe of Arcas were instructed to act on behalf of the court.

Meanwhile, MacMillan Bloedel had retained Morley Eldridge to conduct its own search for CMTs. Neither Eldridge nor the Arcas archaeologists found CMTs or any other type of aboriginal site in the cut-block, which is about 7 km inland, in the upper reaches of the lower Tsitika valley.

Since the band could not provide evidence of having used that portion of the valley, the injunction was denied and logging in the Tsitika has gone ahead. □

A Curious Currency

Part 2: The Hudson's Bay Company's trade in Haiqua shells



by Richard Mackie and Robert M. Galois

IN THE October 1990 *Midden* we discussed the procurement sites and trade patterns of haiqua (dentalium shells) on the Northwest Coast. For many years, especially between the 1820s and the 1850s, this curious currency was traded by the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) across enormous distances on the Pacific slope. In this article, we focus on the haiqua trade of the southern coast and portions of the northern interior.

Between 1821 and 1846 the HBC was the predominant, and often the only non-Native presence west of the Rockies, north of California, and south of Russian America. References in HBC records to haiqua shells are numerous for these years, and suggest that the company required a large number of haiqua for its extensive and diverse Indian trades.

Gabriel Franchere, who was on the lower Columbia with the Astorians in 1811, recorded that haiqua were strung in six-foot lengths known as fathoms. John McLoughlin of Fort Vancouver (in 1826) called haiqua the current coin among the Indians of the Northwest Coast and said that 40 of the shells were strung on a thread. This suggests that the standard haiqua fathom contained 40 shells strung end-to-end. The HBC also measured such items as lines, nets, robes, tobacco, and even canoes in fathoms.

No doubt fur traders adapted to an existing native trade in haiqua, but it may be significant that they had been familiar with such modes

of exchange long before they reached the Pacific. Marius Barbeau, for example, recorded that the North West Company bought wampum shells in Montreal in batches of 100,000 for the Indian trade.

Fur trade records allow us to discern the main patterns of the HBC's involvement in the haiqua trade. Haiqua from Cape Flattery and the Gulf of Georgia region were traded into Puget Sound and then south to the Columbia and Umpqua rivers. Some shells were traded overland with HBC brigades as far north as the Yukon River.

Coastal Vessels

From 1825, in an attempt to eliminate American competition, the HBC regularly employed vessels in the coastal trade. With these vessels it was a relatively easy

matter to intersect the native haiqua trade. The principal point at which HBC vessels obtained haiqua shells was Cape Flattery. In 1830, for example, Captain Aemilius Simpson procured both fish and haiqua from "Cape Flattery [Makah] Indians." For one of these coastal voyages (1839) the letter of instruction to the ship's master has survived. In it James Douglas of Fort Vancouver told Captain James Scarborough, of the schooner *Cadboro*, to purchase "400 or 500 fathoms" of haiqua at Cape Flattery. So frequent were Scarborough's stops there that Neah Bay was known, briefly, to the HBC as Scarborough Bay.

Fort Langley

The HBC established its first coastal post north of the Columbia in the summer of 1827. Within a year McLoughlin, from Fort Vancouver, had informed the officer in charge of Fort Langley that "Hioquois are in great demand towards the Snake Country & the Umpqua," and asked him to purchase at least 400 fathoms of haiqua.

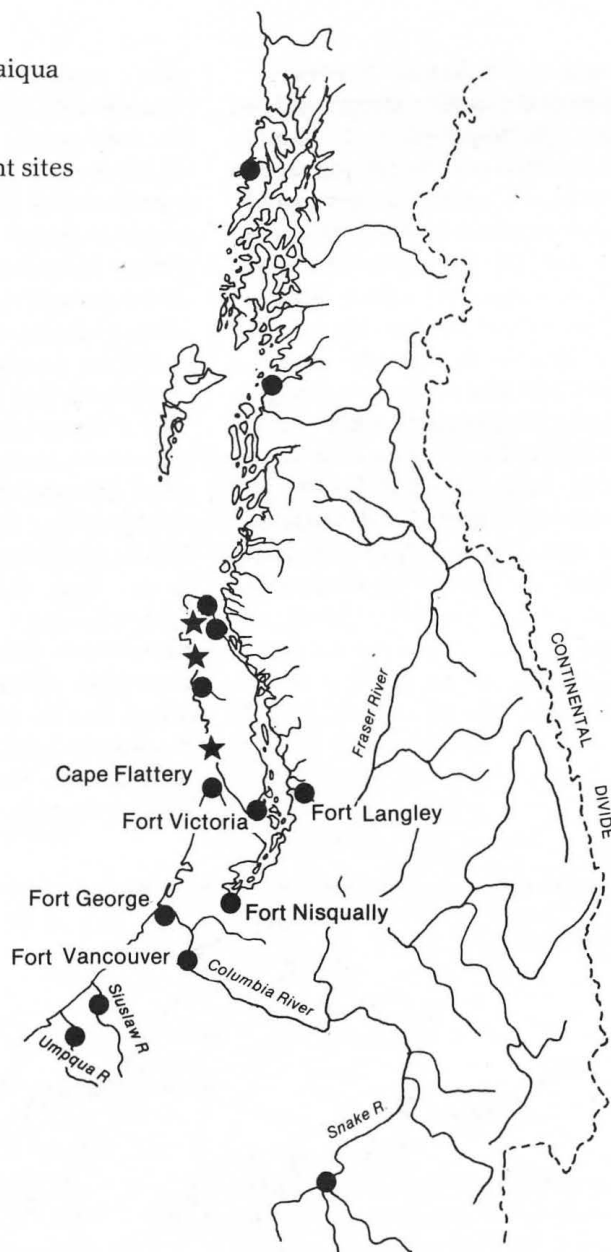
Fort George

At least one batch of haiqua was obtained at Fort George (formerly Fort Astoria) by the HBC and sent upriver to Fort Vancouver. This came in 1835, when McLoughlin informed John Dunn, the officer in charge, that the haiqua he had sent to Fort Vancouver were good, but too expensive. Dunn was instructed to purchase a further thirty or forty fathoms at the rate of a blanket a fathom.

Fort Nisqually

Fort Nisqually, founded on the southeast shore of Puget Sound in 1833, also provided haiqua to Fort Vancouver. In 1835 McLoughlin thanked Nisqually's William Kittson for the haiqua he had sent, and asked him to obtain another 300 or 400 fathoms for Fort Vancouver's trade.

- Reports of haiqua
- ★ Haiqua procurement sites



Fort Victoria

This post was established in 1843 to secure a British presence on Vancouver Island. By 1846, if not earlier, Makah Indians from Cape Flattery were trading haiqua shells at the fort. From Fort Victoria the haiqua were shipped by Company vessels to the Columbia River for further disposition. How long after the Oregon Treaty this pattern persisted is not known.

Siuslaw and Umpqua Rivers

As another facet of its policy of combating American competition,

the HBC dispatched trading and trapping parties to the country south of the Columbia River. Parties travelling to the Siuslaw and Umpqua rivers took haiqua shells as trade items. In 1826 Alexander McLeod exchanged "Jye quoise" for beaver pelts at the Siuslaw River and noted that this "article seems to be the principal Commodity of Trade with these Indians." In the same year McLeod wrote to McLoughlin from the Umpqua River: "Hy-a-quois claim the preference above Any other Article I hope you have some to send to us."

Yukon and Mackenzie Rivers

The most dramatic example of the HBC's participation in, and transformation of, the haiqua trade occurred on the Yukon and Mackenzie rivers. In 1845, Douglas sent a parcel of haiqua overland from Fort Vancouver to the "other" Fort Simpson, at the junction of the Mackenzie and Liard rivers. Douglas told the officer in charge, Murdoch McPherson, that they were "called the Hy-qua and were formerly used (like the Courie in Africa), as a currency by the natives of the NW Coast." He added that the Russian American Company

were supplied annually with a considerable quantity by the HBC for their northern trade. Douglas's shipment of haiqua must have travelled some 2,000 miles overland. Some of these shells were promptly forwarded to Fort Yukon, in response to a claim by Mr. Murray that a box of haiqua there would be worth over two thousand pounds sterling (about \$10,000).

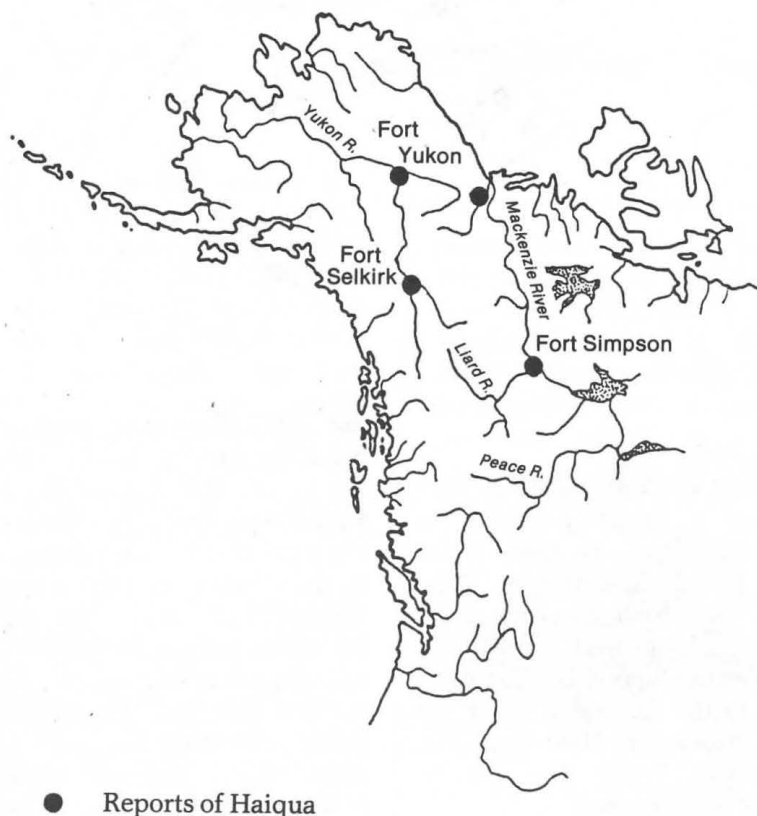
A clue to the reason for this shipment is given by ethnographer Ethel Stewart. She writes that the coastal Indians traded haiqua to the Kutchin Indians of the Yukon River in exchange for furs, which they then traded to the Russian American Company. It was, therefore, in the HBC's interest to divert this fur trade eastward to the Mackenzie River posts by importing haiqua all the way from Fort Vancouver to Kutchin territory.

HBC haiqua shipments continued into the 1850s. In November 1851, McPherson's successor at Fort Simpson, James Anderson, notified his superiors of the great demand for the shells at Fort Yukon and at Fort Selkirk farther up the Yukon River. Anderson asked that 4,000 shells be sent annually to him from Fort Vancouver to allow him to compete with the Russians on the lower Yukon River. The following year Anderson more than doubled his standing order to 8,000-10,000 shells.

It is unclear just how many haiqua were in the end sent from the Columbia to the Yukon, or how long these shipments continued. Frederick Whymper, during a visit to Fort Yukon in 1867, observed that the Kutchin Indians used "Ilyaquas" as ornaments and that both the HBC and the Russian American Company traded them extensively. Ultimately, beads superseded haiqua as the favoured article of trade in the Kutchin area.

Conclusion

The historical record shows that the Hudson's Bay Company entered the haiqua trade on a large scale after 1821 along much of the Northwest Coast, on interior river systems and into the Mackenzie and Yukon watersheds. The beginning of the end of haiqua trading was the Oregon Treaty of 1846. The Americans quickly introduced a monetary economy, which doomed the use of haiqua south of the 49th parallel. But even in American territory the disappearance of haiqua was a drawn-out affair. In 1857 James Swan noted that these shells were still in use in Washington state; he called them Siwash dollars.



The HBC's haiqua trade lasted longer in British territory to the north. For example, Richard Mayne noted in 1862 that this "curious currency" was still obtained by the HBC from the Nuu-chah-nulth Indians and sent to the interior of British Columbia. Even in 1869 the HBC's William Fraser Tolmie, in requesting a supply of haiqua from Fort Rupert, observed that the demand was as high as ever in Victoria. Ultimately, alas, this Native form of currency was replaced as the principal unit of exchange on the entire Pacific slope by blankets, beads, dollars, and other forms of wealth.

This discussion raises several important questions. Were haiqua

the "circulating medium" or universal currency before contact, as they so clearly were in later years? If so, did HBC commercial activity expand the scale of the haiqua trade? How did haiqua get from procurement sites to HBC posts and vessels? Who traded them, and what effect did their trade have on indigenous trading patterns and power relations? Did the HBC use indigenous trade routes to distribute the shells from Cape Flattery to the Columbia and thence inland? Or did the company itself develop these routes?

Archaeological field work, together with archival research, will provide answers to these questions.

Finally, a note of caution to archaeologists. The presence of haiqua in the upper horizons of archaeological sites may not indicate pre-contact trade. The presence of haiqua at some sites (for example, fur trade posts) may not indicate native presence, let alone native use, of the site. It may instead reflect the HBC's well-documented and extensive 19th century trade in haiqua. □

Dr. Robert M. Galois is a historical geographer engaged in research on early British Columbia. Richard Mackie is a doctoral student in the history department at UBC. Anyone wishing information on sources used in this article should contact the authors c/o The Midden.



Microblades from a very old site

RADIOCARBON ASSAYS confirm the Landels site (*EdRi 11*) as the oldest excavated site on the Canadian Plateau. The site, in a mid-altitude context in Oregon Jack Creek valley, near Ashcroft, was excavated last summer by Mike Rousseau under the auspices of Simon Fraser Univ. with BC Heritage Trust funding.

Rousseau told *The Midden* that the uppermost, Lochnore-phase component yielded two radiocarbon dates, 5480 ± 70 BP and 6000 ± 80 BP. Bone associated with cultural material and an underlying Mazama ash lens, produced date estimates of 7670 ± 80 BP and 8400 ± 90 BP. A third component, at the bottom of the excavated area, was not completely explored, but Rousseau

expects it dates to about 8500-9000 BP.

A large number of microblades and microblade cores were recovered, especially from the Lochnore component, but also from the underlying layers. Analysis is in progress and we can expect an article in *The Midden* early in the new year. □

Out in the valley

DgRn 23, a previously unrecorded housepit site, came to archaeologists' attention last month in the wake of excavations for a new subdivision in Hatzic, just east of Mission.

Initial assessment of the damage concluded that little could be done,

after the fact, besides collecting the displaced artifacts. However, as salvage work progressed, Gordon Mohs and his crew of volunteers uncovered remains of what appears to be a buried house pit complete with post molds, an earth bench, and a hearth. Associated artifacts include cobble tools and obsidian flakes as well as some fish and mammal bone.

The bottom of the house pit, which is about 2 m below present-day ground surface, rests on gravel that probably represents a former river bank. This could mean that the site is several thousand years old, and Mohs is eagerly awaiting the results of radiocarbon assays currently being processed. □

New Publications

Totem Poles, by Hilary Stewart. 1990. Douglas & McIntyre, Vancouver. 192 pp., ill., bibl., \$29.95 (hardcover).

The stories of 113 standing totem poles in B.C. and Alaska. Descriptions and pen and ink drawings, as well as a general introduction to poles, crests, and cultural styles.

A Death Feast in Dimlahamid, by Terry Glavin. 1990. New Star Books, Vancouver. 200 pp., bibl. \$24.95 (hardcover).

An account of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en struggle for recognition interweaving oral history, current events, past and present Native culture, and the Canadian legal system.

The Story of the Sechelt Nation, by Lester Peterson. 1990. Harbour Publishing, Madeira Park, B.C., for the Sechelt Indian Band. 145 pp., endnotes. \$15.95 (paper).

A history based mainly on oral traditions related to the author during his visits with Sechelt (Coast Salish) people and interpreted by him in a context of global proto-mythology.

Historical Atlas of Canada, Vol.3: Addressing the Twentieth Century, 1891-1961, edited by Donald Kerr and Deryck W. Holdsworth, cartography by Geoffrey J. Matthews. 1990. Univ. of Toronto Press, Toronto. 197 pp. \$95.00 (hardcover).

Sixty-six full-colour double-spread plates with maps, graphs, and text compiled by Canadian scholars — major economic patterns, industrial and resource production, demography and society, the Great Depression, Second World War, and post-war period.

Windows on the Past: Interpretive Guide to Pacific Northwest History. 1990. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Forest Service. Booklet. Free from Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region, Recreation, 319 SW Pine St., Box 3623, Portland, OR 97208-3623.

Visitors' guide to 77 archaeological and historical sites in US National Forests in Washington and Oregon. Brief description of each site and directions.

Heritage Resource Directory, edited by Karon Oliver. 1990. Heritage Society of British Columbia, Vancouver. 111 pp. \$20.00 (spiral; also on disk).

Information on B.C. firms and individuals offering heritage-related services and supplies.

Annual Archaeological Report, Ontario. Vol.1 (New Series) 1990. Ontario Heritage Foundation, Toronto. 146 pp., ill., bibl., index. Free from OHF, 2nd floor, 77 Bloor St. West, Toronto M7A 2R9 (tel: 416-965-9504).

Short summaries of 60 archaeological field projects carried out under license in Ontario in 1987, 1988, and 1989.

Prehistoric Life on the Olympic Peninsula: The First Inhabitants of a Great American Wilderness, by Eric O. Bergland and Jerry Marr. 1988. Pacific Northwest National Parks and Forests Association (83 South King St., Suite 212, Seattle, Wash. 98104). 88 pp., ill., glossary, index. US \$6.95 (paper).

The story of the people who've lived in northwestern Washington over the past 12,000 years with re-created scenes based on current archaeological research. Written for the public.

A model of organization

Northwest Native Harvest, text and illustrations by Carol Batdorf. 1990. Hancock House, Surrey, B.C. 96 pp., ill., index. \$7.95 (paper).

ONCE AGAIN, the old saw about good things coming in small packages holds true. The title of this book doesn't begin to describe the wealth between its covers. It is about the food of the Coast Salish people who inhabited the Puget Sound area. It is about what foods were eaten, how, when, and where the food was harvested, and by whom. How it was stored and cooked, and how traditional Salish methods can be translated to the present. There is more solid information packed into 96 pages than one usually finds in books four times its length!

Northwest Native Harvest is a model of organization. The author discusses her sources in the preface, and in the introduction talks about the food resources available to the Puget Sound Salish. Then, beginning with how food related to Salish culture, Batdorf describes the food-gathering cycle month by

month, continues with descriptions of the cooking implements, and even discusses the various types of cooking and smoking fires used to prepare the foods.

Then come the foods themselves. We are told how each type was harvested and we are given recipes for their preparation. There are drawings for identification purposes, and the Salish stories sprinkled throughout add more flavour to an already appealing mix. Round this out with a generous index, and we have a very good basic introduction to the culture of the Coast Salish people as characterized by their food.

Carol Batdorf describes Coast Salish cookery as "efficient, wholesome, and nutritious." So is this book. I enjoyed it enormously.

□

— Phyllis Mason

ASBC member Phyllis Mason is a library technician who works at Vancouver Community College - Langara library.

B.C. in the latest CJA

The recently published issue of the *Canadian Journal of Archaeology* (Vol.14, 1990) includes several articles about research on the north coast: *Wood Stake Weirs and Salmon Fishing on the Northwest Coast: Evidence from*

Southeast Alaska, by Madonna L. Moss, Jon M. Erlandson, and Robert Stuckenrath (pp.143-158); *Possible Early Human Occupation of the Queen Charlotte Islands, British Columbia*, by Knut R. Fladmark (pp.183-197); and *The Coho Creek*

Site: A Late Moresby Tradition Shell Midden, by Leonard C. Ham (pp.199-221). There's also an obituary of C. Moira Irvine, written by Don Bunyan and R.G. Matson (pp.225-226). □

Debitage

Richard Inglis (RBCM) is collaborating with **Dr. Aldona Jonaitis** (AMNH) on a book about the Yuquot whaler's shrine, scheduled for publication by the Univ. of Wash. Press in 1992. An exhibit will open the following year in New York, at the American Museum of Natural History (where the shrine has been languishing, dismantled, for nearly 100 years), and eventually make its way west for a Victoria showing . . . The spring 1991 Special Issue No.89 of **B.C. Studies** will be by and about the aboriginal peoples of British Columbia . . . Just when we've grown accustomed to bilingual publications, the Panamerican Institute of Geography and History challenges us with a quatra-lingual journal (French, English, Spanish,

and Portuguese). A subscription to the new biannual publication about New World archaeology (its English name is **Journal of American Archaeology**) costs US\$ 26.00 and can be ordered from CPDP-OEA-IPGH, 1889 F Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006-4499 (tel: 202-458-3527) . . . Last month **Sheila Greaves** defended her Ph.D. dissertation (Dept. of Anthropology and Sociology, UBC) titled *The Organization of Microcore Technology in the Canadian Southern Interior Plateau* . . . Another Ph.D. dissertation of interest was completed in 1989 by **Alston V. Thomas** — *The Northern Roots of Hunter - Gatherer Intensification: Camas and the Pacific Northwest*, Dept. of Anthropology, Washington State Univ., Pullman . . . **Grant**

Keddie (RBCM) went on a whirlwind speaking tour in late November that included four venues in the greater Vancouver area where he gave illustrated talks on the antiquity of contact between the Far East and the Northwest Coast . . . **Ann Stevenson** is back in Vancouver, recently appointed to the newly created position of Ethnology Collections Manager at the UBC Museum of Anthropology . . . The **Archaeology Branch** won the BC Museums Association's contest for the best poster of the year. *Listen, the Stones are Speaking* was awarded first prize — a box of photocopy paper . . . The BC Heritage Trust awarded the Borden scholarship in archaeology to **Quentin Mackie**, an MA candidate in the Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Victoria.

Exhibits

Burns Lake Arts Council

PETROGLYPHS & PICTOGRAPHS — A Royal B.C. Museum travelling exhibit. November 23, 1990 through January 13, 1991.

Kwagiulth Museum, Quathiaski Cove

BLOOD FROM STONE: Making and Using Stone Tools in Prehistoric British Columbia — A UBC Museum of Anthropology travelling exhibit. November 26, 1990 through January 18, 1991.

Royal B.C. Museum, Victoria

BLOOD FROM STONE: Making and Using Stone Tools in Prehistoric British Columbia. February 14 to April 14, 1991.

Vancouver Maritime Museum

ENLIGHTENED VOYAGES: Treasures from the Northwest Coast 1774-1792. North American premiere showing of charts, drawings, and artifacts being returned to Canada from Spain after 200 years. January 22 through April 21, 1991.

North Pacific Studies

A conference titled *The Great Ocean: The North Pacific in the 17th Century* will be held March 20-23, 1991, in Portland, Oregon. Papers about the peoples of the North Pacific Rim in the 17th century will focus on the region's history, but organizers are also encouraging contributions from scholars in related disciplines. For further information contact P.A. McGraw, Interim Director, North Pacific Studies Center, Oregon Historical Society, 1230 SW Park Ave., Portland, OR 97205. tel: (503) 222-1741; fax (503) 221-2035.

Northwest Anthropological Conference

The 44th annual Northwest Anthropological meetings will take place March 28-30, 1991, at the Holiday Inn in Missoula, Montana. For additional information contact conference chair G.R. Campbell, Dept. of Anthropology, Univ. of Montana, Missoula MT 59812. tel: (406) 243-2478; fax (406) 243-2327.

Society for American Archaeology

The SAA's 56th annual meetings are scheduled for April 23-28, 1991, at the Clarion Hotel, New Orleans, Louisiana. For details, contact T.A. Kohler, Dept. of Anthropology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-4910.

Canadian Archaeological Association

This year's CAA conference will be held in St. John's, Newfoundland, May 8-11, 1991. For further information contact Ralph Pastore, Dept. of History, Memorial University, St. John's, Nfld. A1C 5S7. tel: (709) 737-4453; fax (709) 737-4569.

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