



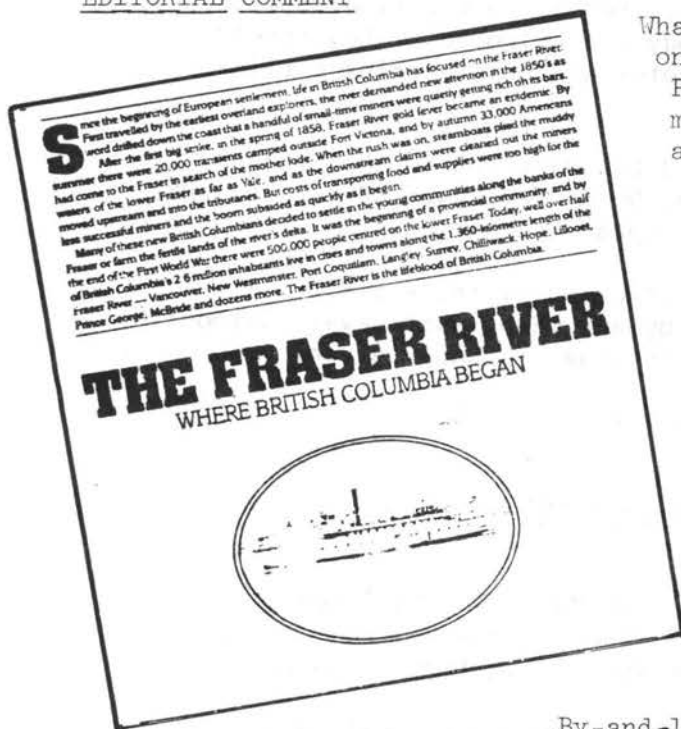
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE MIDDEN

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EDITORIAL COMMENT



What a disappointment a glossy new brochure on the Fraser River is!

Published by the B.C. Ministry of the Environment and titled *The Fraser River, Protecting a Resource*, the expensive-looking booklet opens with a section called "Where British Columbia Began." And where did British Columbia begin? With the coming of the Europeans, of course!

"Since the beginning of European settlement," it gushes, "life in British Columbia has focused on the Fraser River. First travelled by the earliest overland explorers, the river demanded new attention in the 1850's as word drifted down the coast that a handful of small-time miners were quietly getting rich on its bars." But what --you will ask-- of the Native people? Not a word. The entire 12,000-or-so years during which the river was heavily-used as the major highway for fishing and trade are completely ignored.

By-and-large the brochure is readable and useful, a good resource for anyone interested in the state of the river and the fragility of its environment --especially useful for students and teachers. But it is a sad proof that many people apparently still think of this province's history as only beginning when non-Indians arrived, and it seriously distorts the view of the whole river which this booklet attempts to give. We just hope that when the Fraser River Estuary Study finally gives birth to its long-awaited report on the future of the Fraser, the authors of that report do not also overlook the past. The archaeological aspects of the river are daily disappearing, and if the Study ignores them, some vital milestones in our history will soon be gone.

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IN THIS ISSUE....LOOK FOR...."ARCHAEOLOGY IN ALASKA"

NEXT ISSUE: OCTOBER....with a special appendix containing full ASBC Constitution.

THE MIDDEN is produced by the Publications Committee of the Archaeological Society of British Columbia. Editor: Nick Russell. Funded in part by a grant from the B.C. Heritage Trust.

Submissions and exchange publications should be addressed to the Editor, P.O. Box 29, Whonnock, B.C., V0M 1S0. Contributions on subjects germane to B.C. Archaeology are welcomed. They should be relatively brief, with no footnotes and only a brief bibliography (if necessary at all).

Subscriptions (\$5.00 a year) should be addressed to the Manager, Ms. H. Braches, 1020 Lillooet Road, North Vancouver, B.C., V7J 2H8. The next issue of THE MIDDEN will appear October 1981.

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PUBLICATIONS ARRIVE CONSTANTLY

Interested in the archaeology of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario or Washington State? These are among the places from which the A.S.B.C. receives archaeological publications.

Current issues can be borrowed at Archaeological Society meetings from the Society's Librarian.

Election of Executive Committee

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee for the year 1981/82:-

President	S. Veale
Vice President	H. Braches
Treasurer	R. Gilley
Recording Secretary	T. Loxton
Corresponding Secretary	M. Edwardson

MANAGING A NONRENEWABLE RESOURCE:
ARCHAEOLOGY IN ALASKA FORESTS

Following are highlights of a presentation
to an Alaska Science conference

By Gerald H. Clark, Regional Archaeologist,
USDA Forest Service, Juneau*



Cultural Resources are any evidence of man's activities, present or past: "archaeological" sites of the near or remote past, including villages, temporary hunting camps or fishing stations; "historic" sites such as ghost towns, Native villages, canneries, mines, fur farms, Second World War installations and CCC trails and cabins; items such as explorers' journals, early photographs and maps; and finally, less tangible resources such as the memories of the oldtimer or the customs and practices of the various ethnic groups lending variety to current American life.

All federal agencies work with the same set of cultural resource laws. In the aggregate these laws and their subsequent regulations require and provide guidance for the Forest Service to fulfill three broad obligations:

1. Manage the cultural resource on National Forest System lands;
2. Consider the effect that every Forest Service licensed, permitted or initiated undertaking will have on cultural resources; and
3. Provide leadership in the protection of non-federally owned cultural resources.

Each of these broad areas is subdividable. Management of the cultural resource includes six steps: INVENTORY the resource to identify, describe, and locate it; EVALUATE the resource to specify the cultural values present and to relate them to established criteria for evaluation or criteria of significance; SET MANAGEMENT DIRECTION: broad objectives for management; MANAGE the resource through conservation, caretaking, or utilization (such as for scientific study) and publish the results for the public and the profession; MONITOR the resource to detect changes in its condition; and finally EVALUATE THE PROGRAM to ensure it is effective, meeting its objectives, and to modify it as needed.

The responsibility to consider the effects that Forest Service activities will have on cultural resources also comprises several steps, primarily in

* Reprinted from Cultural Resource Notes No.1, published by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service, Alaska Region, November 1980.

the form of consultations with other federal, and state agencies. This is the protective sphere of Forest Service cultural resource activity, for it is here, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, that the effects of an activity on cultural resources are identified and measures are formulated to avoid or mitigate those effects if they are judged adverse.

In contrast to the greater or lesser procedural nature of the above two spheres of activity, the third-- provide leadership in the protection of non-federally owned cultural resources-- requires a significantly greater amount of imagination and may include a broad spectrum of diverse activities. Examples might include development of cooperative agreements with state and local historical societies, giving advice to private owners of cultural resources, advising local agencies which have no inhouse cultural resource expertise, participating in or doing interpretive exhibits and programs, publishing interpretive documents, etc.

FOREST SERVICE
NOW IN FIELD

The cultural resource program of the Forest Service's Alaska Region is a relatively young one. We hired our first archaeologist early in 1974, in the Regional Office in Juneau. The rapid growth of the program is demonstrated by the fact that five full-time archaeologists were added during the late 1977 - early 1978 period: one each in Anchorage, Sitka, Petersburg, and Ketchikan, plus a trainee in Juneau. The Juneau office trainee has subsequently joined the Admiralty Island National Monument staff, and Ketchikan anticipates a second archaeologist early in 1981. In spite of this impressive buildup of capability, the job is outdistancing us: we cannot do justice to the full range of the resource. True, we are involved, to an extent, in nearly all aspects of the total management job. For example, Anchorage and Ketchikan have, or soon shall have, small visitor information displays, and have or are working on agreements with local museums for accession and curation of artifacts recovered from National Forest lands; the Regional Office and all field offices have been cooperating with private individuals, Native groups, State, and other federal agencies in cultural resource identification or protection measures; Petersburg and Juneau have been pursuing literature research in selected aspects of the early fishing industry and historic special use permits; the Chugach National Forest is nearly finished in producing a limited cultural resources overview (a compendium of data on the history and prehistory of that area), and further has been involved in researching historic mining cabins and World War II aircraft; finally Ketchikan, through the Regional Office, and Sitka have conducted archaeological excavations which have made significant contributions to the prehistory of southeast Alaska.

ONLY
SCRATCHING
SURFACE

But this is largely only scratching the surface of what could be; further, some of these activities are responses to crisis situations and are not based on long-range management plans. The Forest Service is a multiple resource management agency. Many of its component management activities have the potential to impact cultural resources: trail building, recreation cabin construction, fish passes, and moose habitat modification by fire are but a few. But no other management activities create impacts of the scale entailed by timber harvest and its associated facilities: cutting units, roads, log camps, log transfer sites. Annually thousands of acres are involved. It is no surprise then that our archaeologists are involved very heavily with the actual or potential impacts created by this aspect of resource management. This involvement leaves little time for other cultural resource management activities.

Now, what of the future? We obviously cannot remain in a status quo position and comply with cultural resource law. Hence, certain changes in the program are fairly easily predictable. Given the increasing scope and complexity of recently revised Advisory Council regulations, new legislation dealing with National Forest management, and new Forest Service regulations currently in draft review, within 1½ - 2 years at the most, we shall have at least two full-time archaeologists on each Area/Forest. We quite likely will find it necessary to contract to accomplish significant portions of the cultural resource overview, field inventory, and National Register evaluations, especially if we are to meet the 1995 deadline set by our Washington office for accomplishing these tasks.

NEED TO
COMPROMISE

In conclusion I would like to emphasize two interrelated points. Multiple resource management means trade-offs. I would be delighted if we could always avoid impacting cultural resources. However, I must be a realist and "candidly" admit that this isn't the best of all possible worlds insofar as the cultural resource is concerned. We can't always have Archaic and eat it too. For this we sometimes catch flack, for trade-offs is a dirty word, a red flag for certain interest groups. We archaeologists in the Alaska Region are combating this impression by striving, through sound, professional work and judgement, to be leaders in reasoned, effective, enlightened cultural resource management, for through our work and efforts runs one critical thread. Unlike trees, which grow back, or fish runs, which may be restocked, or air and water which, once polluted, can be cleaned up, a cultural resource, once damaged or destroyed, is gone forever.

SPEAKERS SOUGHT

Suggestions for Society meeting speakers are always welcome, not only for Vancouver but also for the Abbotsford, Victoria and Northern chapters. Professional experts are always sought, but laypersons from within the Society can also sometimes provide valuable lectures, panels or workshops.

LOOK FOR....

....Peter Schledermann's easy-to-read report on Ellesmere Island excavations, in the May National Geographic.

Titled Eskimo and Viking Finds in the High Arctic, it tells of several seasons of work, culminating in finding wooden dolls, fragments of medieval chainmail, iron boat rivets, bits of barrels, knife blades and Norse-style woven cloth.

Schledermann is director of the Arctic Institute of North America in Calgary. Illustrated with good maps and photographs, the report relates Norse expeditions to the Thule and the Arctic Small Tool cultures.

TORONTO STAR, THURS., FEBRUARY 19, 1981

Chinese find oldest mummy

PEKING (UPI) -- Chinese archeologists have unearthed what is probably the oldest mummy in the world -- a beautiful young woman with blonde hair hanging to her shoulders as it did 6,470 years ago.

The body was found last year at the site of the ancient city of Loulan in a remote and arid region of north-west China where caravans to Europe later passed, the official People's Daily said.



Henry Tabbers - photo

MUSEUM ACQUIRES HANDSOME GREASE DISH

A classic piece of Northwest Coast Indian wood carving has been repatriated to B.C. after about a century in the U.S.

The Vancouver Museum learned that the raven bowl might be available from a private citizen in the Seattle area, but had no money for the acquisition.

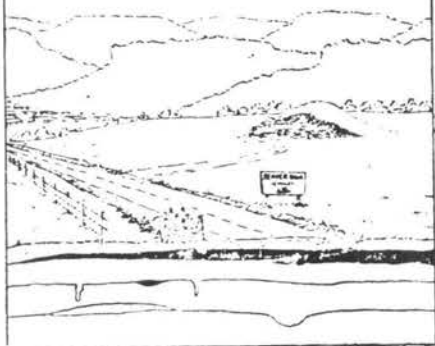
However, Ottawa agreed to buy the piece, for an undisclosed sum and donate it, under the Cultural Property Export and Import Act, which is designed both to stop export of important works and encourage the return of Canadian originals.

Museum curator Lynn Maranda, seen holding the bowl, which bears evidence of use as a grease dish and has some late black and red paint on the front, estimates it as Haida or Tlingit in origin, probably dating from around 1800. In addition to the raven design, which Maranda describes as similar in form to a raven rattle opened out to form the bowl, there are hawk figures on the breast and tail.

The piece --which only needs one minor repair-- was set to go on display in the Vancouver Museum, formerly called the Centennial Museum, in early June.

ARCHEOLOGY and ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

A GUIDE FOR THOSE
PLANNING TO USE,
AFFECT, OR ALTER
THE LANDS SURFACE



Neat little booklet called Archaeology and Archaeological Resources came across our desk recently. It's prepared by the Committee on the Public Understanding of Archaeology, a creature of the Society for American Archaeology, and at 40¢ (admittedly U.S.) it's good value.

The booklet outlines with a dramatic parable, the current state of Archaeology in North America:

"THE PRESENT CRISIS"

"Imagine a historian in a room in the National Archives, which is crammed with unstudied original documents of all dates, being told, "You may select only one of these documents, without opening it, for study." The historian makes his agonizing selection on the basis of his experience --on superficial appearance, the quality of the parchment, a glimpse of a word or tow-- and then stands back while the rest is systematically thrown into a fire. He may be allowed to rake through the ashes to see if anything is left, but all the time he knows that in every room in the building similar fires are being fed with similar irreplaceable data. This is precisely what is happening to our archaeological record of man's heritage."

The publication goes on to warn that "detailed studies conducted in a number of states indicate that within the next 25 years the vast majority of our archaeological resources will have been destroyed." It goes on to define archaeological resources, and what makes sites significant.

Well illustrated, the 24 pages include a clear description of how archaeological research should be planned.

Bulk copies can be obtained at US\$ 9.00 for 50 from the S.A.A., 1703 New Hampshire Ave., N.W., Washington D.C. 20009.

Historic towns criticised on sites

By Martin Walker

*The Guardian,
U.K.
8-8-81*

GLOUCESTER and Lincoln, two of the finest historic towns in the country, have refused to take part in a new experimental scheme which would require developers to have their sites assessed by qualified archaeologists before the bulldozers move in.

Lincoln councillors feared that such a provision could discourage potential developers from bringing new buildings and, possibly, new jobs to their city. Gloucester councillors, who have just decided not to replace the city's retiring urban archaeologist, said that the new scheme would add to their paperwork, and that they were already doing quite

enough for archaeology.

Eight other historic towns, — Berwick, Canterbury, Chester, Colchester, Exeter, Hereford, Oxford, and York — have told the Department of the Environment that they will cooperate with the new scheme. It is not designed to preserve important sites from the bulldozers: simply to let archaeologists examine the ground before the bulldozers erase the evidence.

"It is difficult to understand why the burgesses of Gloucester and Lincoln decided against participation," said the director of the Council for British Archaeology, Mr Henry Cleere, yesterday. The latest issue of

the CBA calendar describes the two towns as archaeological blackspots where the new law most needs to be given a trial.

In Lincoln the planning and the policy resources committees decided that the new scheme would frighten away developers from an area which was already struggling to attract them. The councillors were reminded that a council housing development at Neustadt Court had increased dramatically in price because of Roman remains found beneath the houses.

"The councillors felt that they should take such planning decisions as elected officials rather than leave matters in the hands of

archaeologists," said the planning director, Mr J. S. Anderson. "In the past archaeology has had a bad name in the city. It has delayed development."

"We had no indication of any developer being dissuaded by the kind of conditions we applied," Gloucester's chief executive, Mr F. G. Fitzgerald said yesterday "We think the administrative procedures laid down in the new law are much more cumbersome than our own voluntary system, and this might cause delays and extra paperwork which could prove detrimental to developers, which we would hesitate

UBC PROF TO OPEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL OFFICE IN ATHENS

Dr. Hector Williams, associate professor of classics at UBC, will become the first director of the new Canadian Archaeological Institute in Athens, this Fall.

Dr. Williams will also function --says UBC Reports, "as a sort of cultural attache."

The Canadian presence in Athens has been a pipedream for several years, but finally comes to reality with considerable funding from industry and the federal government. The Department of External Affairs is putting up dollars on the understanding that the director will also handle Canadian cultural interests for the embassy there, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council has agreed to provide \$125,000 over three years.

Dr. Williams, 35, has made a special study of eastern Mediterranean



archaeology, studying at the American School of Classical Studies, and participating in three of its digs. He has also been involved with the continued excavations at Anemurium, in Turkey, under the direction of UBC colleague Prof. James Russell (the June A.S.B.C. speaker). Wife Caroline Williams, also a classical archaeologist, has won a Canada Council award to study Roman monumental street architecture in the Mediterranean while they are there.

UBC Reports says Dr. Williams will give top priority in his new job to extending Canadian excavations in Greece, though permits are getting increasingly hard for foreigners to obtain.

He will also set up Canadian exhibitions in Greece, possibly including Northwest Coast Indian art and Canadian Inuit art.

FIRST NOTICE



The Archaeological Society of B.C. is planning a blockbuster lunch-time lecture series in Downtown Vancouver this fall.

The series will be aimed at the lay person, held in Robson Square, and trace the history of British Columbia from the first people to the present day.

Downtowners could mark their diaries now: four Tuesdays, starting September 29.

