



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

THE MIDDEN

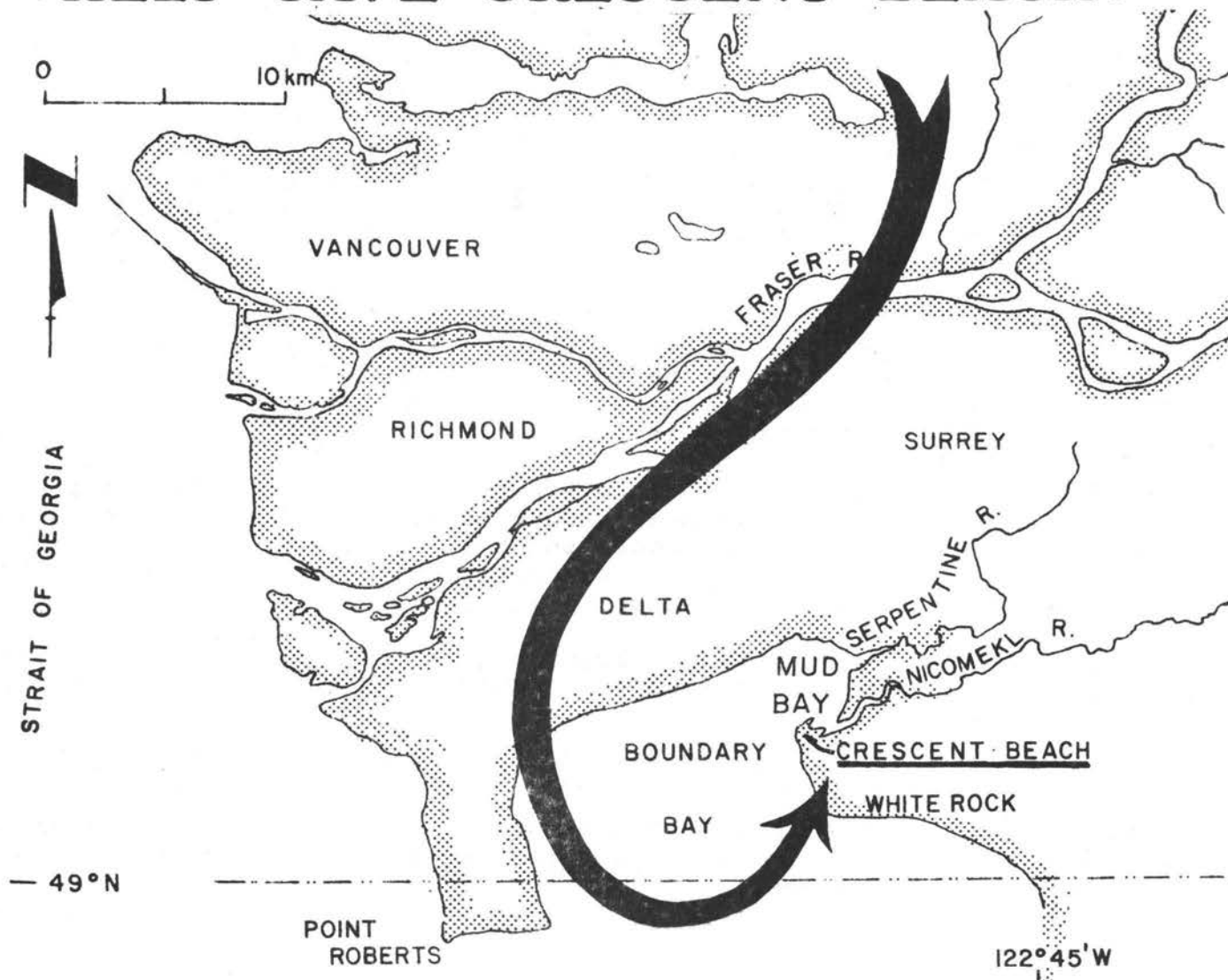
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Produced five times a year by the Publications Committee, Gladys Groves, Chairman, #504-2005 Pendrell St., Vancouver, B.C., V6G 1T8.

HELP SAVE CRESCENT BEACH!



Archæologist urges action: See page 3

THE VANCOUVER MUSEUMS AND PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION

Announces Tours to View

"TREASURES OF TUTANKHAMUN" Exhibit

at the Seattle Art Museum

The "Treasures of Tutankhamun" will be on view in the Flag Pavilion, Seattle Centre, July 15 - Nov. 15, 1978. There are no guided tours of the exhibition but a narrative is provided by excerpts from the journals of the archaeologist Howard Carter, and by photographic murals of the six-year excavation of the tomb. "Acoustiguides", taped explanatory recordings, are available for rental. No photographs may be taken inside the exhibit. Not recommended for pre-schoolers.

THE VANCOUVER MUSEUMS AND PLANETARIUM ASSOCIATION ONE-DAY EXCURSIONS will include: return transportation in a first class air conditioned bus with restroom facilities, and reserved group tickets for immediate entry to the exhibit (value U.S. \$4.00 per person). A professional V.M.P.A. staff member will be on board each bus. Time is allotted for luncheon and shopping in Seattle with two hours for viewing the exhibit. Cost of meals is not included.

DATES AND DEPARTURE TIMES:

Monday, July	17	9:15 a.m.
"	July 31	9:15 a.m.
"	August 7	7:15 a.m.
"	August 14	9:15 a.m.
"	August 21	9:15 a.m.
"	August 28	9:15 a.m.



All tours will depart from the Crab Fountain in front of the Museum/Planetarium Complex, and return to that point approximately 12 hours later. Limited seating capacity.

PURCHASE OF TICKETS: Available to general public April 11. Call in person or mail (well in advance) cheque payable to the Vancouver Museums and Planetarium Association, addressed to: Cashier - "Treasures of Tutankhamun", 1100 Chestnut St., Vancouver, B.C., V6J 3J9. No refunds after April 30. V.M.P.A. members \$22.00, non-members \$27.00.

Cynthia Sheikholeslami, Project Egyptologist for the Seattle Art Museum, will present a lecture entitled "TUTANKHAMUN'S EGYPT" in the Centennial Auditorium June 16 and 17.

Friday and Saturday evenings	8:00 p.m.
Saturday afternoon	2:00 p.m.

Registration for the V.M.P.A. bus excursion will entitle the bearer to free admission to one lecture, when requested at the time of excursion ticket purchase.

A PROPOSAL FOR MANAGEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE
RESOURCES AT THE CRESCENT BEACH SITE, DgRr 1

By Leonard C. Ham, Department of Anthropology
and Sociology, University of British Columbia

Crescent Beach, B.C. is situated on the eastern shore of Boundary Bay (see cover). With the exception of Blackie's Spit, Crescent Beach occupies an area of some 26,000 square metres (m²) of which approximately 31% contains cultural deposits dating back some 5,000 years. At present approximately 82% of the shell midden deposits, or 6,675 m², is occupied by private dwellings, streets, lanes, or has been substantially destroyed or disturbed. However, the remainder of the deposit is relatively undisturbed and is being recommended for designation under the Heritage Conservation Act. An additional 100 m² on the bluff overlooking Crescent Beach should also be designated.

A Question of Responsibilities

There can be little doubt that the preservation of archaeological deposits in British Columbia should be as important a goal as the study of these deposits. If current developments in archaeological theory and method are any indication, present theory and method will appear even more backward to future archaeologists than those of the past appear to us today. There can be little doubt that "...archaeological research will continue to produce significant new information about the past" (McGimsey and Davis 1977:28-9). Clearly archaeologists have a responsibility to ensure that at least a portion of the province's archaeological resources is preserved for the future.

The Crescent Beach site is only one of hundreds of archaeological sites in British Columbia facing total destruction if immediate action is not taken. Fortunately there are sufficient areas of the Crescent Beach site to justify a concentrated effort at preservation and management of what deposits remain. The attrition of archaeological deposits at Crescent Beach may be viewed almost daily as backhoes excavate more and more.

The conflict between modern occupation and that of the past arises from the fact that Crescent Beach is as desirable a place to live today as it was to pre-historic human groups over the past 5,000 years, although the reasons may vary. Modern settlements unfortunately (for the remains of prehistoric ones) usually involve wholesale modification of the local environment as the result of landscaping, excavation of house basements, as well as water, sewer and gas lines, the building of roads, lanes and sidewalks, and the continual upgrading of these facilities.

Unfortunately these requirements of modern settlements do not cease simply because archaeologists become alarmed over the destruction of archaeological deposits. Nor do archaeologists have the right to demand that the residents of an area such as Crescent Beach deny themselves the right to modern conveniences and services. Nor do archaeologists have the right to make excessive economic demands upon the community simply to preserve prehistoric debris which may currently be of interest to only a small part of the community.

However, it must be emphasized that the residents of a community such as Crescent Beach also have responsibilities to maintain the ecological attractiveness of their community, an attractiveness which can be greatly enhanced by the preservation of its archaeological resources. Further, if it may be argued that archaeologists have a responsibility to see that archaeological resources are preserved for future generations, it must be remembered that they bear at least a part of this responsibility on behalf of today's public.

We must also realize that throughout the 1970's there has been an increasing interest shown by British Columbia's Native People in their cultural heritage. There is no indication that this trend is abating; rather the opposite is happening. Over the past few years several Indian Bands have become actively involved in inventory and research programs concerning archaeological resources. This demand further emphasizes the need for proper management of archaeological resources all over the province.

Clearly then, if we are to preserve a portion of the record of prehistoric human activities at Crescent Beach, we must plot a path which causes minimal impact on the community, both in terms of economics and in terms of the unique lifestyle which is characteristic of that community. At the same time we must endeavour to preserve as much of the archaeological record as is possible. This cannot be done without some prior knowledge of the extent and nature of the archaeological resources in question. In addition, local residents and other parties with an interest in the area must be informed of possible courses of action and their implications.

Once these objectives have been attained it would be desirable to make use of current legislation to designate and protect portions of the Crescent Beach site.

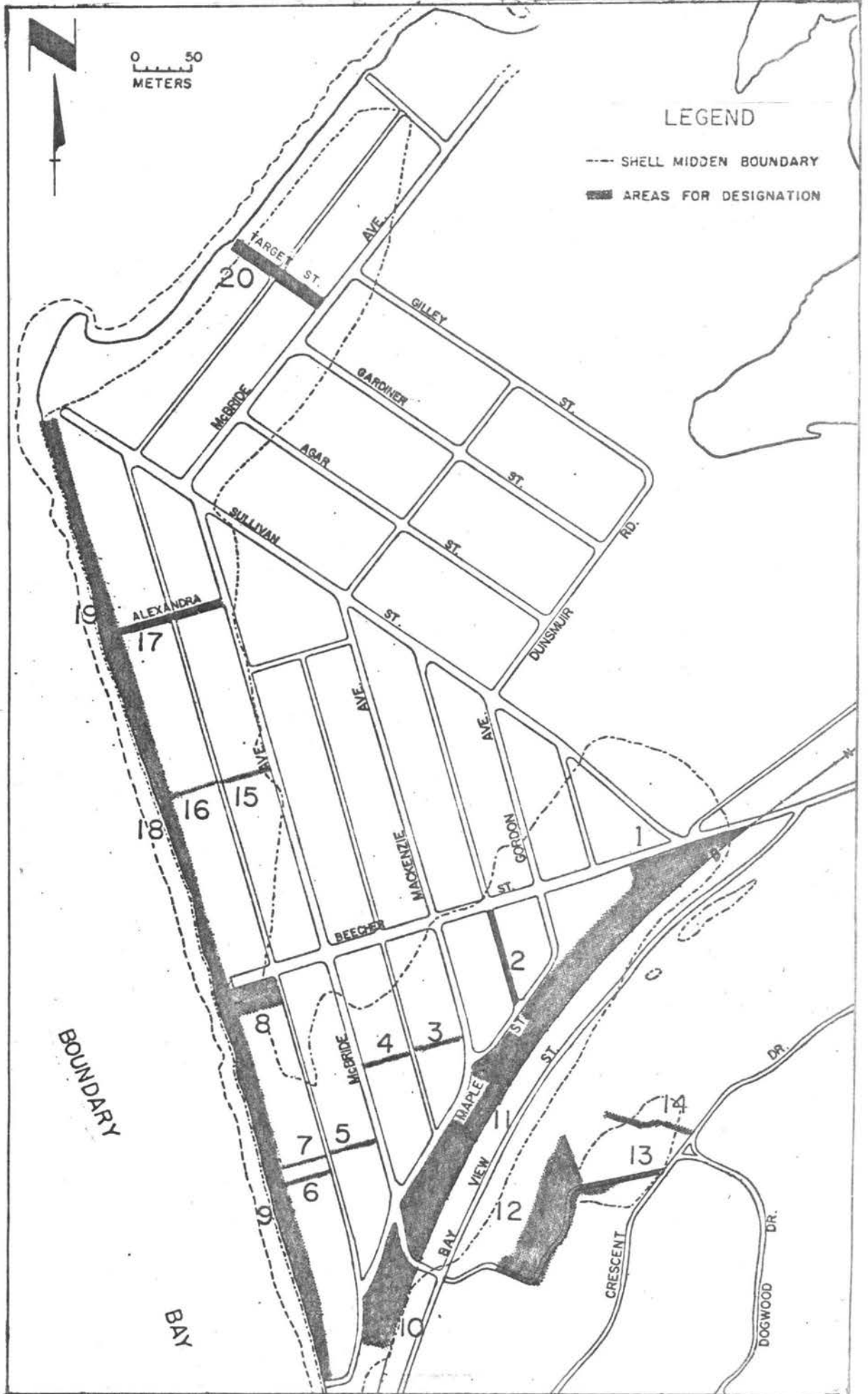


FIG. 2.
 Areas
 recommended
 for
 designation.

Areas for Designation

The first of the above objectives has been reached, at least to the point where we may make an evaluation of the archaeological resources of Crescent Beach and determine which portions may be preserved and protected. Mapping of the extent of the archaeological deposits at Crescent Beach has been carried out in conjunction with salvage and research projects at the site over the last two years. This was accomplished through a variety of means including observation of municipal excavations, excavation of test pits, examination of local gardens and ditches, questioning local residents, and augering with a power post-hole auger.

In all, 20 separate areas have been proposed as suitable for designation under the Provincial Heritage Conservation Act. To maintain minimal economic impact, all areas are under municipal jurisdiction, or are property of the Burlington Northern. It is felt that all of these areas may be upgraded in the future simply by the addition of fill which may then be landscaped without damaging the cultural deposits beneath. In this manner pathways, roadways, or parks may be upgraded if desired, while the Burlington Northern right-of-way may even be used for housing so long as sufficient fill is placed over the archaeological deposits. Excavations in these areas would, of course, be restricted to those areas where a water, sewer or gas line already exists. In fact any work done in these areas would require supervision from the Provincial Archaeologist's office.

It is felt that the designation of the following areas (see Figure 2) will cause minimal economic impact on the community and cause an absolute minimum of inconvenience to local residents and the municipality. It is possible that no conflicts will be generated at all. The following areas are recommended for designation:

Area 1 DL 52, Plan #10038, Lot 1, Crescent Park.

Cultural deposits here may be more than 2 m deep and are possibly multicomponent. This is also the location of the petroglyph recorded as DgRr 7 (Hill & Hill 1974:56).

Area 2 DL 52, Plan #2482, lane right-of-way.

The lane right-of-way in this block is undeveloped and has only been disturbed by a waterline down the eastern side. Thus substantial blocks of undisturbed cultural deposits remain, possibly as deep as 2 m and probably dating in excess of 2,000 years ago.

Area 3 DL 52, Plan #2482, path right-of-way between Lots 6 and 7.

Area 4 DL 52, Plan #2482, path right-of-way between Lots 15 and 16.

Beach access paths in this block are undeveloped and probably contain up to 2 m of deposit dating to the Marpole time period, 2,400 to 1,500 years ago.

Area 5 DL 52, Plan #2200, path right-of-way between Lots 10 and 11.

Area 6 DL 52, Plan #2200, path right-of-way between Lots S6' of 30 and N10' of 30.

Area 7 DL 52, Plan #2200, path right-of-way between Lots N10' of 30 and 31.

The beach rights-of-way in this block are also undeveloped and contain cultural deposits up to 2 m in depth. Marpole time period deposits thin out in this area being replaced by Late Period deposits along the western half.

Area 8 DL 52, Plan #2200, Lot 40.

The public washroom parking lot at the southern end of Beecher St. contains up to 2 m of cultural deposits including burials. Although a sewer line runs across the lot from the public washrooms, substantial midden still remains. These deposits are very thick on the western side but thin out rapidly as no deposits are present in O'Hara Lane to the east.

Area 9 DL 52, Plan #25109, Lot 47.

This beach front lot is disturbed on its eastern side by a sewer line. Substantial cultural deposits still exist to the west, especially at the southern end of the lot. This was the location of excavations in 1976 and 1977 (Ham and Broderick n.d., Ham n.d.). Deposits here are approximately 2 m deep and date to within the last 1,500 years.

Area 10 Burlington Northern right-of-way between McBride Ave. on the north, and the southern end of Maple St. on the south.

This area was investigated by a test unit in 1976 (Ham and Broderick n.d., p.5). Shell content is somewhat lower here but there are large amounts of firecracked rock and ash as well as artifacts and other faunal remains. Several burials were encountered in a single 1.5 m unit. The deposits appear to date to the Marpole time period.

Area 11 Burlington Northern right-of-way bounded by Beecher St. on the north, the eastern edge of the railway bed on the east, McBride Ave. on the south and Maple St. on the west.

This area contains the largest blocks of undisturbed archaeological resources in the Crescent Beach area. Two excavation projects have been carried out on this property in 1976 (Ham and Broderick n.d., Trace 1977a) and in 1977 (Trace 1977b). Deposits here vary from less than 1 m to nearly 3 m in depth and date to the Locarno time

period, approximately 3,200 to 2,500 years ago (Trace 1977a:8, 1977b:3). It is estimated that around 5% of this area has been disturbed by ditches, bulldozing and archaeological excavations. The remaining areas appear undisturbed, tree rings from trees growing adjacent to the 1976 excavations providing ages of 101 and 106 years (Ham and Broderick n.d., p.13). Conservation efforts are required along part of the ditch excavated by the municipality in 1976 as the walls are slumping badly endangering several m³ of cultural deposits.

Area 12 DL 52, Plan #3136, parkland.

Area 13 DL 52, Plan #3136, right-of-way between Lots 2 and 13.

Area 14 DL 52, Plan #3136 and 23122, right-of-way between Lots 13 and A.

Very little is known about these deposits located on the bluff overlooking Crescent Beach proper. The possibility exists that deposits here are older than any below the bluff although they could be capped by more recent deposits. It is suggested that this area be tested to eliminate any questions concerning the nature of the deposits and their archaeological nature.

Area 15 DL 52, Plan #2200, path right-of-way between Lots 9 and N10' of 10.

Area 16 DL 52, Plan #2200, path right-of-way between Lots N10' of 31 and 32.

Area 17 DL 52, Plan #2200, Alexandra St. including right-of-way.

Area 18 DL 52, Plan #25109, Lot 46.

Area 19 DL 52, Plan #25109, Lot 45.

Cultural deposits in areas 15 to 19 appear to be mixed, redeposited and in situ cultural deposits. It seems likely that the in situ material dates within the last 1,500 years while the redeposited materials are probably somewhat older. Extensive gravel deposits were also noted.

Area 20 DL 52, Plan #2200, Target St. including right-of-way.

Deposits here are more typical than in the previous area and deposits probably represent the most recent deposits at Crescent Beach which are undisturbed. The deposit may be in excess of 1 m in depth.

Conclusions

In all, 1,425 m² of prehistoric cultural deposits at Crescent Beach have been recommended for designation under the Heritage Conservation Act. An effort has been made to span all time periods known at the site as well as to obtain portions of the deposit which are somewhat different. In all cases areas have been selected which are situated on public land or on land

not immediately slated for development. It is hoped that these areas may be maintained in their present condition at modest cost, and that all selected areas may be upgraded by adding fill and thus not endangering the cultural deposits. Any work carried out at or near these areas must be supervised by the Provincial Archaeologist's Office.

The task at hand now is to submit this plan to those parties including the local residents who have an interest in the area. Hopefully any conflicts may be resolved and a solid effort made towards managing and protecting prehistoric deposits at Crescent Beach. The Archaeological Society of British Columbia has shown a keen interest in the Crescent Beach site over the past few years. It is hoped that this interest will continue and that they will support the plan outlined in this paper. If this plan succeeds, the future looks quite bright for British Columbia's prehistoric heritage resources.

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UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA - CENTRE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

University of Cambridge, England

Archaeological Field Techniques, OP 1602-378

Beginners	July 1 - 15	July 15 - 29
Advanced	" "	" "
Supervisors	" "	" "

\$125 a week includes accommodation, some meals, tuition, lectures, demonstration and field work.

Some study of archaeology is prerequisite for the beginner's level.

Contact Overseas Programs, 228-2181, local 272 for complete details.

Educational Travel

The British Columbia and Alaska Coast: A Magnificent Blend of Sea and Land

July 11-23, accompanying specialists: William Austin, marine biologist; Roy Taylor, botanist; Peter Macnair, anthropologist. A 13-day field study cruise aboard a 154-foot converted minesweeper. \$1,550. Information: 228-2181, locals 219, 257.

Journey to 'Ksan and the Queen Charlottes SC 1429-278

June. Details to be announced. One-week tour. Phone 228-2181, local 237.

In the Path of the Discoverers: To the Spice Islands and the China Seas ET 3051-378

July 1-30, Tour leader: Ken Woodsworth, \$2,700. 228-2181, local 213.

An Archaeological Tour of North Africa and Southern Spain ET 3060-279

May 1979. Hanna Kassis, PhD, archaeologist, UBC. To place name on waiting list please call 228-2181, locals 219, 257.

From Lake Titicaca to Lake Atitlan ET 3052-378

Aug. 4-29. Instructor: Frances Robinson. South and Central America. \$2,650. Information 228-2181, locals 237, 252.

Describing Artifacts, No. 11

(Part of a continuing series on artifact description, reproduced from the handbook for archaeological staff working on the National Inventory Project in B.C. The Midden extends thanks to Tom Loy of the Provincial Museum for permission to reprint.)

DESCRIPTIVE DATA, Part 2

Material - Each material is described so that the most general category to which the artifact belongs is mentioned first, followed by more specific terms. For example: "Stone, siliceous, chert."

This method of increasing specificity accommodates an artifact made from material of such poor quality that definite identification of species, genus, etc. is difficult. Also, the development from general to specific description aids the retrieval efficiency of this system. With general categories first, the researcher will be able to accumulate all the artifacts that may be related to that which he or she seeks, and will be able to segregate desired components.

One of the following terms for material will be followed by any number of the descriptors for a simple artifact. There are 19 general material categories:

- *animal membrane - type (babiche, rawhide, sinew, tanned leather, etc.), then genus and/or species (in Latin) if animal of origin positively identified, or if not possible, then common name if identification is reasonably good but not positive. (See "bone" for example of decreasing specificity.)
- *antler - list species, or common name, or general category, then the portion of the antler used, e.g. beam or tine.
- *bark - give species, and common name.
- *bone - then species (in Latin) if the bone has been positively identified, or if not possible, then common name, e.g. deer, elk, seal if the identification is reasonably good, but not positive; or, if still not possible, then land-mammal, sea-mammal, bird, fish (whichever applies), then specific anatomical reference if possible, e.g. tibia or metatarsal, or a more general anatomical reference, e.g. post-cranial, cranial, limb, long bone, using the more technical term if possible, e.g. cranial, not skull. (For reference see Gilbert, 1973.)
- *ceramic - for now simply enter as such.
- *claw - include species, or common name.
- *cloth - type of cloth, e.g. linen or wool.
- *glass - include the color.
- *hair - include species, color, etc.
- *horn - list species, or common name, or general category, then the portion used--proximal, medial or distal.
- *ivory - include species, or common name. This term is reserved for separate use since ivory (walrus, narwhal, elephant, mammoth and mastodon) has sufficiently distinct properties from tooth to deserve a separate category.

cont'd

Descriptive Data, Part 2 - continued

- *metal - list the common name of the type of metal and if possible, for less common metals, list the elemental constituents as well.
- *mineral - give the common name and elemental constituents if possible. ("Mineral" is defined separately in the "Dictionary of Terms".)
- *plant fibre - list the genus and species, if known, and the common name, and if known the part of the plant.
- *shell - give genus and, if known, the species. Common names should not be used unless absolutely necessary because of their variation from area to area.
- *stone - in general the form will be first the geological or mineralogical term, then some descriptive modifier. Depending upon the accuracy of the identification, more general terms may be used such as jade (which includes nephrite, jadite and serpentinite), plutonic (the granites, diorites, gabbros, etc.), volcanic (which includes obsidian, basalt, dacite, pumice), precipitate (goethite, hematite, limonite, wad (MnO₂), copper carbonate, etc.), sedimentary (which includes sandstone, shale, siltstone, clay), metamorphic (schist, slate, quartzite, greywacke, etc.), or siliceous (chert, chalcedony, opal, flint, agate, jasper, etc.).
- *synthetic - (for historic items) type (plastic, vulcanized rubber, synthetic fibres, etc.).
- *tooth - include species, if positively identified, or common name, or general category (land-mammal, etc.), then the positional name of the tooth.
- *wood - list the genus and species if known and the common name. If wood has been rendered into its fibrous components then it will be classed with plant fibre.

A.S.B.C. DIARY

May 9 - Monthly meeting - Ms. Barbara De Mott of Simon Fraser U. Dept. of Archaeology, speaking on "Arts of Kingship in Nigeria".

Abbotsford Chapter - Tuesday, May 9 - Richard Blacklaws speaking on "Prehistory of the Arctic".

Victoria Chapter - May meeting - Dr. James Russell - to be announced.

* * * *

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS SURVEY GROWS SUBSTANTIALLY

Abridged from an interim report to
Canada Council by Don Bunyan,
committee chairman

The aim of the project is to make an indexed photographic record of native Indian artifacts held in private collections in the Province. The Canada Council approved a grant of \$3,210 last summer, and the project effectively got under way with the appointment of Suzanne Clouthier, fourth-year U.B.C. anthropology student, as administrator on Sept. 15, 1977. This interim summary therefore marks the completion of six months of work. We can report reasonably satisfactory progress.

Chronicle

Housing for the records of the project became available in the summer of 1977 when Dr. Richard J. Pearson of U.B.C. offered us space in the Museum of Anthropology. The records are now located in an office in the archaeological research area of the museum and our administrator has the use of a desk and a telephone there. We are indeed grateful to Dr. Pearson and the museum authorities for their assistance.

Concerted publicity efforts and communication by word of mouth have brought us to the point where our records contain the addresses of about 150 collectors.

The work of photographing the collections, which was already moving before the Canada Council

grant, has accelerated. We now have three teams working, each drawing on four or five persons. One team, originally comprising a couple living at Whonnock, now includes members from the Abbotsford branch of the Society. We have hopes that the Abbotsford group will eventually bud off and work on their own. Two members of the project sub-committee visited Victoria to demonstrate our methods to members of the Society's chapter there, and it seems likely that they, too, will take up the work.

We have already attracted and served our first customer...an archaeology student who has been consulting our photo-files.

Current Status

With three teams working half-independently, and with delays in transmitting their results, the precise state of the whole job at any one date is hard to assess. However, as of Mar. 6 our records showed 60 collections photographed, 37 of them since the current campaign began last September. The 60 collections had required 679 photographs of some 7,660 artifacts, an average of 128 objects per collection. (The first 23 collections had averaged 142 objects.)

In our application to the Council we stated, "We have firm knowledge of another two dozen collections whose owners wish them to be

recorded, and we estimate that there are yet another 50 or 60 collections in the Lower Mainland area alone." When we tried to get in touch with those two dozen known collectors, we found that about half of them had either lost interest or moved away. However, our publicity campaign attracted many enquiries, and our records as at Mar. 26 contain addresses of some 150 collections altogether, 135 of them being in the Lower Mainland area. With 60 already dealt with, we have still 90 to record, 75 being in our immediate area.

Belated publication of an adequate account of the project by The Vancouver Sun recently brought in some 30 enquiries. If and when the other daily deigns to notice us, a crop of similar size would probably be reaped.

Many of the "collections" are very small, comprising perhaps two or three artifacts found by accident, but some have been quite large and well organized. (One collection on Vancouver Island, not yet tackled, contains 8,000 artifacts!)

Summary

The project has not gone exactly as we tried to plan it, but it is after all an "exploration". Progress has been somewhat slower than we hoped, but has been reasonably satisfactory. Certainly the need for the work has been shown by the number of collections turned up.

SEE YOUR TAX MONEY AT WORK!

National Museum officials have kindly pointed out to The Midden that current issues in their "Mercury" series of publications are free of charge.

A spokesman for the Archaeological Division, referring to an item in the December Midden which listed some titles of special western interest, noted that while past issues have been priced, the policy now is to distribute free on a first-come basis.

The address can be found with that list of publications.

Ed.

A.S.B.C. CONTINUES AFFILIATION WITH MUSEUM

It's worth reminding members that membership in the A.S.B.C. also gives free admission to the Centennial and Maritime Museums in the Museum/Planetarium complex.

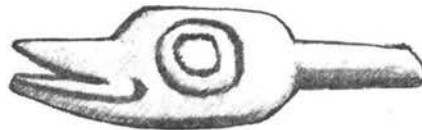
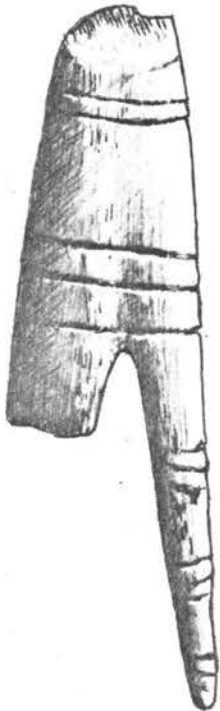
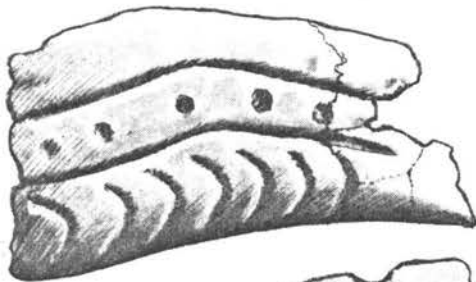
Although this does not also provide discounts at the Museum shop...the Society's affiliation does permit us a reduced rental rate for our meetings in the auditorium, so we don't have to charge admission!



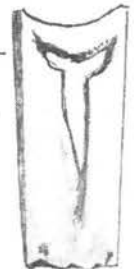
SPOON HANDLE.
EYE INLAID WITH
ABALONE - HERON.



8.0 cm

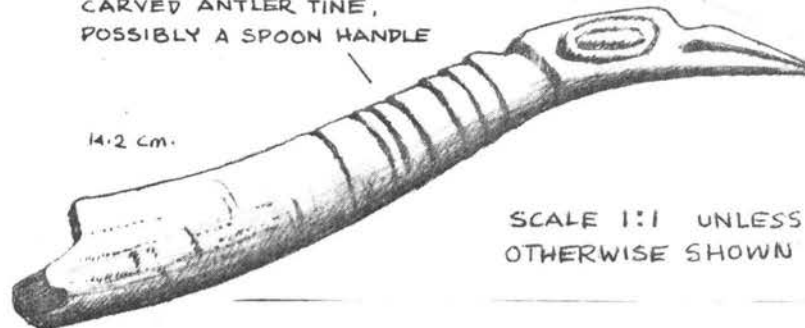


COULD BE TIP
OF BONE SPOON
HANDLE.



CARVED ANTLER TINE,
POSSIBLY A SPOON HANDLE

14.2 cm.



SCALE 1:1 UNLESS
OTHERWISE SHOWN

EXCERPTED FROM:
"ARTIFACTS OF THE NORTHWEST
COAST INDIANS" by
HILARY STEWART © COPYRIGHT
1973

This page is a small sampling of some of the exquisite designs carved and incised into many articles of household use and personal adornment. These broken fragments hint at the beauty of a decorated browband or a wristlet, the elegance of a spoon tipped with a graceful bird's head.

Embellishment such as this speaks of a people with a highly sophisticated sense of design, of a people with a rich and well developed culture.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA - INDEX TO THE MIDDEN

Volume 9, 1977 (Published February, April, June, October, December)

* illustrated article

Compiled by Frances M. Woodward, Special Collections Division,
University of British Columbia Library

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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