

Application for Canada Council Grant

Wilson Duff.

1. Brief Statement of Project:

The project is in the field of North American Ethnology. It will involve a year's work in the Canadian Museum of Human History. It falls into three stages: 1. Under the guidance of Dr. Marius Barbeau, to become familiar with the vast files of field notes on the Tsimshian and other Northwest Coast tribes which he has assembled. 2. With a knowledge of these basic data, to make a critical evaluation of Dr. Barbeau's published works in this field. 3. In collaboration with Dr. Barbeau, to prepare for publication as much as possible of the basic material and studies based upon it, with special emphasis on Tsimshian social structure and traditional history.

2. Personal History and Education:

My full name is Wilson Duff. I was born in Vancouver on March 23, 1925. I served from 1943 to 1946 in the Royal Canadian Air Force, and completed a tour of operations overseas as a Flying Officer Navigator. I am now married, with two children aged $6\frac{1}{2}$ and $1\frac{1}{2}$. I have no disabilities or handicaps.

My early education was obtained in Vancouver. I attended the University of British Columbia during 1942-43 and 1946-49 and obtained my Bachelor of Arts Degree in 1949, majoring in Sociology. I then attended the University of Washington during 1949-50, and obtained my Master of Arts Degree in Anthropology.

3. Accomplishments: Since my competence to undertake the proposed project must be judged on my proven capacity for research and my familiarity with this field of study, I include the following list of my accomplishments.

a. Positions Held:

1. Since June, 1950, I have been Curator of Anthropology in the B.C. Provincial Museum of Natural History and Anthropology.
2. On two occasions I have taught non-credit extension courses at Victoria College. (1951, Indians of the B.C. Coast; 1955, Introduction to Anthropology.)

b. Advanced Studies and Research:

1. Fraser Valley Indians. Ethnographic and archaeological field research and library research during 1949-51 resulted in the ethnography "The Upper Stalo Indians". This was presented as my M.A. thesis and published as

Wilson Duff.

- a memoir in the Anthropology in B.C. series (see list of publications).
2. Prehistoric Stone Sculpture. A major study, pursued intermittently from 1949 to 1956, of the ancient stone sculpture of the Fraser River area and its relationship to recent Northwest Coast art. Published in the Anthropology in B.C. series.
 3. Indian Population Figures. I have devoted much research to B.C. Indian populations and trends since 1835. This material has been only partially published in the form of maps in the "B.C. Atlas of Resources".
 4. Tsimshian Indians. Field work in most of the Tsimshian villages in 1948, 1952 and 1957 has given me a first-hand familiarity with the people, their totem poles, and their social organization. One publication has resulted so far: "Gitksan Totem Poles, 1952".
 5. Other Indians. Totem pole salvage operations have taken me to most of the villages of the Haida and Kwakiutl tribes, and I have obtained a good knowledge of their habitat and culture. An ethnographic survey of the Carrier Indians in 1951 produced a paper that was published. For several years I have made visits to the nearby Coast Salish tribes of Vancouver Island, and I have made detailed studies of their winter spirit dances.

c. Other Related Accomplishments:

1. Totem Pole Carving Programme. I have been responsible for the direction of the carving programme in Thunderbird Park since its inception in 1952. This has given me a familiarity with all types of totem poles and their place in Indian culture. In working with the famous Kwakiutl carver and informant Mungo Martin, I have been able to assemble a great deal of information on that tribe.
2. Totem Pole Salvage Projects. I have been involved in the organization and execution of several salvage operations since 1953. These projects, undertaken in co-operation with the University of B.C. and assisted by private industry and the Royal Canadian Navy, have resulted in the preservation of some 30 poles from six Haida and Kwakiutl villages. This programme is continuing.

d. List of Publications:

As Editor

1. Anthropology in British Columbia, No.1, 1950; No.2, 1951; No.3, 1952; No.4, 1953-54; No. 5, 1956. British Columbia Provincial Museum, Department of Education, Victoria.

This has included the preparation of an annual summary of research in progress and publications dealing with anthropology in the general area.

Wilson Duff.

2. Anthropology in British Columbia, Memoirs, No.1, 1952 and Nos.2-3, 1955. British Columbia Provincial Museum, Department of Education, Victoria.

As Writer

Duff, Wilson

- 1951 Notes on Carrier Social Organization. Anthropology in British Columbia, No.2, pp.28-34. Victoria.
- 1951 Indian Natural History. Victoria Naturalist, Vol.7, No.8, pp.92-94; Vol.7, No.9, pp.103-106; Vol.8, No.2, pp.16-17. Victoria.
1952. Thunderbird Park. British Columbia Government Travel Bureau, Victoria.
- 1952 Review of "Petroglyphs of Central Washington" by H.T.Cain. British Columbia Historical Quarterly, July-October, 1951. Victoria.
- 1952 Review of "The Wolf Ritual of the Northwest Coast" by Alice H.Ernst. American Anthropologist, Vol.54, No.4, p.568. Menasha.
- 1953 Gitksan Totem Poles, 1952. Anthropology in British Columbia, Memei No.3, 1952, pp.21-30. Victoria.
- 1953 The Upper Stalo Indians. Anthropology in British Columbia, Memoir No.1, 136 pp.Victoria.
- 1954 A Heritage in Decay, the Totem Art of the Haidas. Canadian Art, Vol.11, No.2.
- 1954 Preserving the Talking Sticks. Powell River Digester, Vol.30, No.6, Vancouver.

Duff, Wilson and C.E.Borden.

- 1954 A Scottsbluff-Eden Point from British Columbia. Anthropology in British Columbia, No.4, pp.33-34, Victoria

Duff, Wilson and Michael Kew

- 1956 Selected List of Publications Pertaining to the Indians of British Columbia. British Columbia Provincial Museum, Victoria. 21 pp.

Taylor, H.C. and Wilson Duff

- 1956 A Post-contact Southward Movement of the Kwakiutl. Research Studies of the State College of Washington, Vol.24, No.1, pp.56-66. Pullman.

Duff, Wilson

- 1956 An Unusual Burial at the Whalen Site. Research Studies of the State College of Washington, Vol.24, No.1, pp.67-72. Pullman.
- 1956 Thunderbird Park (revised edition). British Columbia Government Travel Bureau, Victoria. 32 pp.
- 1956 Unique Stone Artifacts from the Gulf Islands. Provincial Museum Report for 1955, Victoria, pp.45-55.
- 1956 Three maps entitled Native Indians: Distribution of Ethnic Groups 1850, Population and Economic Life 1835, and Population Trends 1835-1954. British Columbia Atlas of Resources, British Columbia Natural Resources Conference, Victoria.
- 1957 Totem Poles Recall Vanished Seafarers. The Crownsnest, Vol.9, No.3, pp.22-23. Ottawa.
- 1957 Prehistoric Stone Sculpture of the Fraser River and Gulf of Georgia. Anthropology in British Columbia, No.5, 1956. pp.15-51. Victoria.

The "Report of the Anthropologist" in each Annual Report of the Provincial Museum from 1950 to 1956 gives a full account of my activities.

Statement of Project

4. Description of the Project:

The files of the National Museum of Canada contain voluminous field notes on the Tsimshian and other North Pacific Coast tribes, assembled over many years by Dr. Marius Barbeau, and considered by him to be his chief contribution to research in Canada. Much of this information could no longer be obtained in the field. Nobody else has become conversant with this body of material, and some of it is written in a private shorthand which Dr. Barbeau alone can read. The first part of my plan, therefore, is to work at the National Museum under the guidance of Dr. Barbeau, becoming familiar with the contents of these files and transcribing the field notes where necessary.

Some of Dr. Barbeau's published interpretations of these materials, involving for example the recency of certain aspects of Indian art and social organization, and the evidence for recent migrations from Siberia, have not met with complete acceptance. It is therefore desirable that another active scholar become conversant with Dr. Barbeau's basic data, in order to support or re-evaluate his interpretations. A second part of my plan is to make such a

Wilson Duff.

critical evaluation of his previous publications.

Further field research among the Tsimshian without the benefit of this vast body of information, by myself or anyone else, would be a senseless duplication of effort. It is therefore important that the basic data, and studies based upon them, be published as soon as possible. The final part of my plan of research is therefore to work in collaboration with Dr. Barbeau preparing manuscripts for publication. These will deal with Tsimshian social structure and traditional history (subjects central to my field of interest) and with other subjects which may be fully treated in the files. My own ultimate aim will be to relate these studies to problems of the nature and development of the unique culture of the Northwest Coast, and of recent diffusions of culture from Asia.

The number of publications resulting from the project will be limited by the time allotted to it, which is one year. In view of Dr. Barbeau's advanced age, it should be started as soon as possible. I suggest July 15, 1958. Facilities for publication exist both at the National Museum and at the Provincial Museum of British Columbia, and still other publication outlets may be used. The project already has the approval of Dr. Barbeau and of the Director of the Canadian Museum of Human History (National Museum of Canada).

It is my intention in future to continue research in the field of Northwest Coast ethnology and prehistory to as great an extent as my work in the Provincial Museum of B.C. will allow. An added value of the project would be that the association with the National Museum would improve my qualifications as a museum curator.

5. List of References

1. Dr. Marius Barbeau, c/o National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.
2. Dr. Jacques Rousseau, Director, Canadian Museum of Human History, National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.
3. Dr. G.C. Carl, Director, Provincial Museum of B.C., Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C.
4. Dr. Harry B. Hawthorn, Head, Department of Anthropology, Criminology and Sociology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, B.C.
5. Dr. Erna Gunther, Director, Washington State Museum, 4037 - 15th Ave., N.E., Seattle 5, Washington (also Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington.)
6. Dr. Viola E. Garfield, Associate Professor of Anthropology, Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle 5, Washington.

Wilson Duff

7. Dr. T.F. McIlwraith, Head, Department of Anthropology,
University of Toronto, Toronto 5, Ontario.
8. Dr. Helen Codere, Department of Economics, Sociology and
Anthropology, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, New York.