

git'ans' crests

I (Royal) House of sg.agwe't

(laxsk̓ik)

McKays:

- (a) haitkam st̓ss̓.l not used by any others in this form
- (b) g̓i'e bəlk exclusive to sg.agwe't and other royal gunhut
- (c) q̓at or wi'l̓əksəm q̓e:t : shark used by royal gunhut laxsk̓ik
- (d) many more but they were in max-nx form
- (e) xs̓ki:ək

House names

- (1) xs̓ki:e g̓əm wə:l̓b "eagle's house" his house at present time
- (2) hal̓ai'tam wə:l̓b : one of Agagwets houses on the Skuna built off the ground house

No special names for canoes

Had special names for dogs, referring to laxsk̓ik crest

- (a) sag̓e'i:[t xs̓ki:ək] : belonged to Eagles, not exclusively gathering rotted limbs the eagle to this house.
- Many names applied to the dog are those of the wife or mother of owner of the dog.
- (b) g̓e x̓ta'bən [st̓ss̓.l] belongs to Taxsk̓ik people dragging belly of beaver "Beaver drags his belly"
- (c) ya:yage'ks [kə:t st̓ss̓.l] down to beach sliding beaver
- (d) a:t taxg̓ə'.x [sa:l st̓ss̓.l] : belonged to the Taxsk̓ik of early eating maple beaver any tribe at all. A great many of these names.

④ The reason why these names were formed was this: when they married and had no offspring, names were found for their pet dog, and they were then known as the father of such and such a dog.

Names for coppers:

- (a) t̓pu'nəm haye'tsk : whale copper or plentiful copper, engraved It was broken to pieces and distributed to chiefs, depres. bones of sg.agwe't.

I House of ge'otuk (g̑isgwudwād̑)

Mckays. (a) m̑di^l.^e g̑m d̑z̑g̑m̑aks : grizzly of the water made on top of the house in front, carved in wood, whole figure of modigom sitting with paws up looking down. Different from regular grizzly in having seaweeds instead of fur. They don't carve it any different, but mention that fact when assuming the crest. Painted on robes also, and headdresses with head of modisk.

Also used by t̑isntax̑ (g̑isp, g̑naxang̑ik) who had same myth. There are only two he knows using it.

(b) g̑emk [g̑emg̑m̑ hu'ps̑] : moon - used on robe when assuming name, or death of a person in his house, represented on his face, painted in red; red circular line all around face. On robe, painted red, in shape of human face. Used also by niyunks (g̑it̑en)

(c) ma'xe (rainbow) painted across face (S); on robes; on house front. Used by the royal g̑isgwudwade.

(d) h̑est (fireweed) used by gamayem alone. There as a commemoration pole here on the island, erected in the memory of gamayem, which is a h̑est. All .. paintings of the git̑ands houses are still in existence and visible on the Skuna at git̑wilg̑a'x̑si (about 50 miles upriver)

h̑est also used by n̑isnaw̑i (gilodzay) and suhalait (g̑ispax̑ts). The pole should be painted red to represent the h̑est. Also by wul'amg̑l or n̑askwe's (same) g̑ilodzay It seems that gamayem adopted it after he separated from ge'otuk house.

Bradley : Crests of gamayem of the git̑ands:

(a) g̑emk (sun or moon ??)

over

- Johnson:
- (a) n̄ēxt has sun it used by him
 - (b) m̄dīsk (azaymaks, she thinks)
 - (c) h̄ēst his own representation here on git̄and̄ territory
also belonged to elim lake' (has sun it used by him
on his robe and on totem pole at laxsga'yens on
Kuna in ḡinawanḡik territory ^{on cross leaves} "the place with leaves across")
 - (d) ma'xē
 - (e) ḡemk

II House of 'm̄̄sxt̄

(Taxskisk)

- McKays:
- (a) st'sɔ·l (beaver) carved on the front of the house, in beaver form, but its head was turned down to the ground and was turned naxnaȳm st'sɔ·l. Had no stick in its mouth, did have checkered tail, with human face in it. Also used by ḡistēku [III] but a little different relatives.
 - (b) q̄alkha'uts : hat of species of salt water duck. used as headdress when assuming a name, on its back was mother of pearl. Did not belong to other houses except perhaps sg.a gwe't.

He might also use the Taxskisk, which was the general crest. The xskisk was used in different forms by different Taxskisk, all according to the myth connected. Some would represent it as a whole skisk, others as tattooed on the hands, others small decorations merely to show that they were of the xskisk.

For myth of (a) st'sɔ·l see this file. (he and relatives killed monster beaver at Lakelee)

Johnson:

- (a) h̄aitk̄m st'sɔ·l

- ✓ (b) naxnaȳm txa'ō (also used in n̄t̄u'̄s̄/əx subdw of III)
= q̄ipə'i ḡomtka'

- ✓ (c) maxl̄k pi'̄l̄m xsk̄i'̄sk : ten eagles. A headdress
over through ten eagles

with ten eagles represented; one large, the other nine represented as offspring, painted representations of feathers on the eagle

Exclusive: Ganhada have maxl̄k pi'̄sk but with ravens.

- ✓ (d) gwusḡa'ḡɔ́ garment of groundhog, and the term galḡɔ́ was applied to it instead of ḡwi'yuk because of its brightuster. Exclusive.

III House of g̑ist̑ek̑u (laxsk̑iak)

Mckays (a) naxnay̑m st̑s̑l represented on his totem pole here, on beach near hȇst ; also made on the 4 corner posts of the house. In corner post with it they are on this beaver a stick protruding from its back, apparently having been chewed, and called g̑amnag̑ȇig̑esk̑ : old remnants, or chewing stick. It protruded over the roof, to each corner, made in manner of the lān̑m̑gȇit̑, about 3 layers. (It was lying across top of pole, over the roof)

(b) This was used as a hat, the g̑amnag̑ȇig̑esk̑ with 3 layers, in ceremony of assuming a name. The beaver was also painted on robe used in same ceremony. Not used by anyone else in this form.

(c) naxnay̑m tx̑ȃl̑o used on robe, for assuming name. Made like a regular rabbit; no human beings on it. Painted on house front. Not on pole or headdress.

gilaske'mey̑on [III b] had a special naxnay̑m st̑s̑l of his own. This was adopted by him on a first, but he mentioned no myth in this connection, as was the custom to do. Made on each corner post of his house, may still be seen on the skuna; standing beaver on the poles. In here, it was standing inside the house. Without the g̑amnag̑ȇig̑esk̑.

He also used the other crests of g̑ist̑ek̑u.

Johnson (a) hȇit̑k̑om st̑s̑l on his pole here, it is called erect beaver, although squatting.

(b) naxnay̑m tx̑ȃl̑o

(c) xsk̑ȋ-esk̑ - also on his pole.

Mckays: totem pole as here, eagle on top, and a sitting beaver; the human at the bottom represents a being in the myth, human. The beaver sits on top of human being.

IV House of 'n̄is yajiyunet

(g. anhads)

Mckays: ✓ (a) naxnagm gaye't represented on a pole, head down, taken away by Crosby. On each fin was a representation of human faces. About 6 fins. Supposed to be all covered with fins, being supernatural. Several colours, red, black, greenish. Used exclusively here. Used only on poles. (and made also on large spoon used in festivals.)
(pole)

✓ ♂ j̄m has his own naxnagm gayet, not this one. That of ♂ j̄m was seen along Warks Canal; this one was seen in gidaigan's country when n̄is yajiyunet was on a war expedition there. Nobody else uses this.

✓ (b) wilx̄t̄l ḡex feathers were made of copper. Used as headdress, a raven with copper wings; represented with 2 maksi's (white weasels) representing salmon livers in its mouth. Rep. only as a headdress. Used by any other in other forms.

✓ (c) naxnagm game'ts : deep-sea gamets with many limbs, with a human face in the centre. No myth. Only adopted in a ȳsk. Represented on robes, painted red; the only way of using it here. Used by many in the same form

✓ (d) wutwā'ds a being with human faces all over its body, painted on house fronts. Exclusive to this house (not conn. with gispowudwads)

(IVb) # g. amsa'g. e. k could not use wilx̄t̄l ḡex but only ordinary raven; he used the wutwā'ds. Not the naxnagm game'ts, nor naxnagm gayet because he was the junior and lower.

(IVc) g. aga'.okt̄k could use the 4 special crests of n̄is.. All these are hereditary in this house.

(IVd) tsayamgishe'its used the 4 above, also another special crest of his own

(a) t̄x̄t̄m sgano'tks : the circular ring around the moon, may (with) to decorate

Painted it on house front as a red ring with 2 human beings on each side of the door, which was in centre of the ring. Also on robes. Exclusive.

This special crest t̄ex̄t̄am sḡaŋ̄ts was given to tsayamgi she'its only recently (over 40 yrs ago) by n̄is̄yazi yune't, to be his exclusive crest. They were brothers and tsayam wanted it.

- Johnson:
- (a) ḡex
 - (b) pt̄s̄e'nm̄ gaye't
 - (c) she doesn't know about wutwa'dəx
 - (d) maxnaḡm̄ game'ts.

V House of g.ay'lowax (g.anhads)

McKays: don't know - house extinct

VI House of laxl,tkwa (g.anhads)

McKays dont know

VII House of niaststewano's (g.anhads)

McKays: This house had a special fashion of fixing or plating their hair, in many plats.

Johnson: same as IV

VIII House of txatkwe'tk (g.anhads)

McKays : (a) 'asewel/gst crest, human like being with large wings. Painted on robes, housefronts; also on poles, setting on top.

IX House of g.asye'tk (g.isprwudwa'ds)

no data (Informants didn't know)

X House of ha'ip (gispawudwada)

McKays: madisk (of the hills) madisgam githa'oli was used in interior of house, setting in the 4 corners, on each pole. Same in form as the other gispaw. but had a different name.
tkuwilige't (Xb) had same crests.

Wallace (a) madisk
(b) qalkmate
(c) messib'axs

Johnson: same myth and origin as loplidziust
(a) ligidit
(b) madisk
(c) qemk
(d) piye'sis

M. Johnson (a) ga'dam'next
(b) setam hagwelox a spoon shaped like a hagwelox next
(c) lanam g.e'.it of 4 layers

XI House of Taxes (Taxeskisk)

Makay: (a) $\ell \varepsilon' s x$ squirrel, carved on end of rafter
of house, protruding outside the house; only in
this form. Nobody else used it.