

Edenshaw (topics)

1. Platters : VBC - fishermen,
- waco-whale City Museum: sound plate
2. Comports : VBC -
- Facial Paintings (Boas.)
- Drawings (Boas)
3. Bear Mether Panels : PM
Edenshaw as informant.
4. Canoe loads
5. Chests : PM.
: City Museum (Museum: art objects?)
6. Carls
7. Old pipes - maybe not Edenshaw - - -
8. White man masks - e u u -
9. Clamshell theme
10. Panels of miscellaneous figures : Hagar
11. Shaman Figures & groups
12. Wooden Figures (Deans 1892) : PM
: VCM
13. Totem poles.
14. Silver
15. Model totem poles

THE STYLES OF CHARLES EDENSHAW

Susan Thomas or Susanne Sterie

An enquiry into the nature of style, by means of a study of the work through the lifetime of Charles Edenshaw. Working from pieces known to be from his hand at given dates, she will describe and extend his styles to include other anonymous works from his hand. Use will be made of all published sources, the collections of the Museum of Anthropology, The City Museum, and possibly the Provincial Museum. The following categories will be included:

Argillite:

chests
dishes
comports
poles
frog dishes
shaman figures and groups
clamshell origin figures
Bear Mother groups
pipes? (earlier bear mother)
panels of figures
canoes of figures
Canes of wood, ivory, silver, and abalone
Large totem poles (PM houseposts 1 and 2)
Skidegate photographs
Silver bracelets ✓
Two-dimensional paintings (Swanton and Boas)
Box designs?
Masks (groups of realistic white and other figures?)

Model poles and figures

Shaman wood figures, man and woman, etc.

Painting on hats? ✓

Paintings on boxes? ✓

Big canoe in Ottawa
" " " AMNH

Model canoe in WSM.

CHARLES EDENSHAW'S ARGILLITE STYLE

A. Representational elements:

1. Themes: Bear Mother, Shamans, Groups in canoes, Clamshell origin of people,

Traits: eg shaman: half closed eyes, pierced nose with pin, headdress or knot with pins, apron, rattle, necklace, wry mouth, etc.

Vocubulary?
B. Forms:

Chests, dishes, comports, single figures, panels, groups, pipes?

c. Techniques:

Sculptural in the round
Surface engraving (silver technique) doesn't meld the two very well?

D. Composition, Form

1. Two dimensional style is fully in the northern conventions
2. Sculptural style is more his own, but unmistakably Haida (Why?)

E. Personal Creativity:

More forms of sculpture, free standing figures, more subjects (but from Haida sources, not white men or ships etc, exc, gargoyle on cane).
Narrative subjects like Bear Mother; sex positions; many expressions on faces, many poses of figures intertwining; fun and games in complex compositions.

Attempts at realism for Boas and Swanton *and in 'white man' masks?*

Charlie Edenshaw speaks to me as interpreter, narrator, light-hearted humorist, and mostly (to my aesthetic sense) as artist.

Flat Designs of Charles Edenshaw

silver

flat slate

paintings

Chests, boxes, cheap sets

Problem: individual style

Method: analyze known pieces

: establish key elements

- eye hatching

- profile faces (extraneous)

- totem head motifs

- split in with round side

- frequency of O-silver

: establish characteristics

- purposeful variability

endless difference in detail

: build up catalog, based on style

: Edenshaw innovations

- solid black for ^{area} outline with
red painted on it

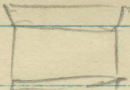



The Place of Edenshaw in NWC art

- "all" chests, boxes

- "all" painted scenes

- hats, baskets, paint trays

Edenshaw Flat Designs

1. Chests  - painted & carved
- painted only
- front & back
- ends : plain
: 1/2 design
: full designs
2. Boxes  with lid - front & back
- corner centred
3. Box-dishes  curved tops
mat cover (painted only)
4. Dishes  (painted)
5. Chups seats
6. Partition screens *Screen screens?*
7. House fronts
8. Paint bags
9. Hats & baskets, basketry cradle
10. Hide aprons, robes, blanket borders, address trailer
11. Paddles, Teihuhas staves
12. Canoes & model canoes
13. Box drums *Tracks' surfaces*
14. Slate plates, boxes
15. Silver
16. Crayon drawings for Boas

EDENSHAW CHEST AND BOX DESIGNS ETC

Sources Utilized

Holm
Davis
Inverarity
Dyn
Boas Primitive Art
Emmons Chilkat Blanket
Boas Tsimshian Mythology
Malin and Feder
Wardwell
Swanton Tlingit
Hawthorn People of the Potlatch
Douglas and DHarnancourt

Swanton Haida
Niblack
Boas Eth Kwak
PM Ende 1909

Nothing in:

Gunther Taylor Mus Cat
Gunther 1962
Lowie Cat
Covarrubias
Dockstader
Boas - Dec Art GNR

MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA
STATE LIBRARY

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