

Territories

The field notes do not permit a precise delineation of q̄lodz̄an territories. Two informants provided information on the subject, Wallace to Barbeau in 1915, and Benjamin Tate to Beaton in 1927. The two sets of notes do not ^{are not} at the same level of detail, but it is difficult to find ^{more than the most general} areas of agreement between them. Since Beaton's 1927 notes are more complete, they will be used as the basis for this report.

q̄lodz̄an territories included the Lakelse River, Lakelse Lake, and, ^{most} at least, of the streams which empty into the lake. The physical characteristics of this Lakelse watershed are very different from those of other tributaries of the Skeena, which usually are neat units ringed in with high mountains and accessible only from ^{mouth or the} the Skeena. Lakelse Lake lies in a broad valley which extends south to Kitimat and north across the Skeena and along the Litsumgalum river to the Nass. In earlier geological times this valley undoubtedly carried the outflow of both the Skeena and Nass rivers. As a result of its position, Lakelse Lake is easily accessible from several directions: from Kitimat in the south, from the Skeena near Kitselas (by way of the Zymoetz) or overland from the Terrace region or up the Lakelse River itself. This last is probably by no means the easiest route.

It is therefore not surprising to find that the people who occupied the area are of diverse - one might say confused - origins and that the claims on territories are complex and conflicting. The ^{n̄̄skimas II}, ^{n̄̄sk̄en̄et III} q̄anhada, q̄isp̄aw̄w̄a'd̄, and ^{n̄̄sq̄am̄d̄s II} l̄ax̄sk̄ik each have claims, supported by their traditions, on areas about the lake. The earliest q̄anhada (VI) seem to be a composite group from Kitimat and from the Skeena. The l̄ax̄sk̄ik (II) seem to be an early gwunkut group also having close relatives at Kitimat. The One q̄isp̄aw̄w̄a'd̄ house (III) claims no other place of origin than Lakelse Lake, and the other

original qisp house (II) seems to have come in via the Zymoetz River and to have relatives at Kitselas (It should be mentioned that Kitselas houses claim at least two areas on Lakelse Lake as well as tributaries of the Kitimat R. even further south).

For part of their early history the inhabitants of the lake did not know the people of the Skuna, and vice versa. It was only in later times that the tribal village was established at the mouth of the river. They seem to make no claims on the Skuna itself.

The village site at the mouth of the river.

Beynon's informant listed 48 named territories or sites. 1-27 are along Lakelee River and ~~acres~~ were common property of the tribe. 28-41 are around the lake, and all but three of these are credited to individual houses.

- t'səm gə't over 2 unacord.

t'ət'səb'əm gəlt'səp - ni'yaks' village at mouth of
fortified village

- lax k'lā'n for lax q,t lā'n Ktukalla nu ni'yaks
on gitlam narrative gitlan file.

g,lodzau

Metla

- (8) lax-wilgeps
- (10) laxkibes'o

Skuna

tku'alap Mouth?

- (92) laxk'ε'ta

- (69) klaxk'els r. to Copper, exc r. frontage which was ksabe → gispax bts.
- (70) II Eagle lower river?
- (71) VI Lankada upstream of 70.
- (72) V Gusp. up Skuna from Klakels., or head of lake?
- (73) I gisp. east of lake.
- (74) III gisp. within valley (Schubuckand indicated on map)
- IV gisp - no ter., a gitksadz
- VII Wolf - " ", a gitssi's used others' with permission

Ter. about Lakerla lake subject of controversy among Kan. Eagles.
and gisp. Lankada bring a myth to bear

Suggestions of different physiography in earlier times. Lakerla
R was partially blocked by a large beaver dam. A woman
dug a ditch for a canoe to the Kitimat drainage.

I 30, 31, 33

{ 21 old gisp will ksadim
22 " Eagle " laxnesel'da }

III 37 "Big stream"

IV (28 IVc) nizgwizi's not nizgwi'xas.

V 35, 38,

VI 29,

VII 32, 34 Schubuck⁺
Hot springs

Common 1-20 23-27 36, 40, 41

