



**Title: The Songhees reserve, Victoria.**

F-09956

## FIRST NATIONS RESEARCH GUIDE

**British Columbia Archives**  
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*Preserving and Providing Access to the Recorded Evidence of British Columbia's Past*

## FIRST NATIONS RESEARCH GUIDE

Anyone doing research in the field of First Nations history is confronted with a large and diverse quantity of material located in various archival and other repositories. It consists of government records, private manuscript collections, and published material, both primary and secondary. The BC Archives is one such repository and while it contains a significant amount of data relating to First Nations, particularly for British Columbia, do not expect to find everything here.

This guide is intended to help you locate material on British Columbia First Nations held at the BC Archives. It is not meant to be a general research guide on the subject, which is both broad in scope and complex in terms of the records available. If you have not already done so, you should do some preparatory work by looking at the following. Call numbers have been provided for material in our collection.

### Published guides and resources

Duff, Wilson. *The Indian History of British Columbia: the Impact of the White Man*. Victoria: Royal British Columbia Museum, 1997. Originally published in 1964. Although Duff's text remains unchanged, the bibliography has been updated and some appendices added, including a table of name changes. NW970.4 A633 no.5 1997

Cottam, S. Barry. *Aboriginal peoples and archives: a brief history of aboriginal and European relations in Canada*. Ottawa: National Archives of Canada, 1997.

Joseph, Gene. *Sharing the knowledge: a First Nations resource guide*. Vancouver: Legal Services Society, 1992.

McCardle, Bennett Ellen. *Indian History and Claims: a Research Handbook*. 2 vol. Ottawa: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 1983. NW970.52 M123

McMillan, Alan D. and Eldon Yellowhorn. *First peoples in Canada*. Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 2004. Previously published as: *Native peoples and cultures of Canada*.

Russell, Bill. *Records of the federal Department of Indian Affairs at the National Archives of Canada: a source for genealogical research*. Toronto: Ontario Genealogical Society, 1998. NW929.1072 R961

Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs. *Stolen lands, broken promises: researching the Indian land question in British Columbia (second edition)*. Vancouver: UBCIC, 2005. Covers basic research methods, historical background and a broad range of research topics including genealogy. Available online at [www.ubcic.bc.ca/Resources/rilq.htm](http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/Resources/rilq.htm). NW970.5 U58r 1998 (first edition).

Young, Terry. *Researching the History of Aboriginal Peoples in British Columbia: a Guide to Resources at the British Columbia Archives and Records Service and BC Lands*. [Victoria, BC]: BC Lands, [1992]. NW026.9711 Y77

Also useful for general background information on First Nations history in British Columbia is the *Handbook of North American Indians*, especially: Vol. 4 *History of Indian-White*

*relations* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian, 1988), Vol.6 *Subarctic* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian, 1981), Vol.7 *Northwest Coast* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian, 1990), Vol. 12 *Plateau* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian, 1998) and Vol. 13 *Plains* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian, 2001). Note the extensive bibliographies at the back of each volume. NW970.1 H236h (v. 6, v.7 and v. 12 only)

### **Internet resources** (as of July 2005)

Note: these sites are not accessible at the BC Archives. Search them at home or at a library.

Aboriginal Canada Portal. [http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nr/prs/j-a2001/porta/index\\_e.html](http://www.ainc-inac.gc.ca/nr/prs/j-a2001/porta/index_e.html)

Aboriginal Directorate (BC). [http://www.mcaws.gov.bc.ca/aboriginal\\_dir/index.htm](http://www.mcaws.gov.bc.ca/aboriginal_dir/index.htm)

First Nations House of Learning Xwi7xwa Library [www.library.ubc.ca/xwi7xwa](http://www.library.ubc.ca/xwi7xwa). Includes useful links and British Columbia First Nations Names Authority List <http://www.library.ubc.ca/xwi7xwa/bcfn.pdf>

Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada. <http://www.irsr-rqpi.gc.ca/>

Library and Archives Canada resources on the topic of Aboriginal peoples. <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/aboriginal-peoples/index-e.html> Includes links to:

Indian Affairs Annual Reports 1864-1990  
<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/indianaffairs/>

Aboriginal Peoples - Guide to the Records of the Government of Canada  
[http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/0201200109\\_e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/0201200109_e.html)

Treaty Negotiations Office (BC) <http://www.prov.gov.bc.ca/tno/>

Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs [www.ubcic.bc.ca](http://www.ubcic.bc.ca). Includes RG-10 database (see below), Our Homes Are Bleeding Digital Collection and UBCIC publications including *Stolen lands, broken promises, Our homes are bleeding* and *The lands we lost*.

For a general orientation on how to use the Archives please see the *British Columbia Archives Orientation Guide*.

## **PUBLISHED SOURCES**

The Archives has a large collection of published material related to First Nations history. It consists of books, pamphlets, journal articles and sometimes theses (which may also be treated as manuscripts – see below). These sources are useful in gaining an understanding of historical developments and overall context, as well as often providing leads to further material.

Search the library catalogue (both the cards and online) under subjects, names, authors or titles that you have identified as being of interest to your research. The online library catalogue can be searched by keyword as well. Note that too broad or general a word

(e.g. Indians) can yield a large number of references, many of which will not be relevant for your purposes. It is a good idea to start with the most specific terms and broaden your search if necessary.

Doing a paper for school and have limited time? Look for a book, scholarly article or theses on your topic and check the bibliography, especially for journal articles and unpublished material.

When searching subject headings in the card catalogue, especially under the the term "Indians", note that geographic subheadings, e.g. British Columbia, Northwest Coast, Canada, occur before the general subject subheadings, e.g. Art, Government relations, Music. Geographic subheadings may be further subdivided by general subject terms, e.g. Indians – British Columbia – Land tenure.

If you are looking for information about a particular nation or community, check under their name, e.g. Haida Indians, as well as their geographic location, e.g. Indians – British Columbia – Queen Charlotte Islands.

If you have found relevant citations in an online search look at the subject headings for those references. They may be useful in looking for further material.

### **Government publications**

As government, both federal and provincial, played a large role in the history of Canada's First Nations, government publications should not be overlooked in your research. Some selected titles are listed below.

British Columbia. *British Columbia Gazette*. 1871- . Notification of allotments of some reserves, land transactions. Annual indexes. NW320.05 B862

British Columbia. *Papers connected with the Indian land question, 1850-1875*. Victoria: Queen's Printer, 1875. Also published in the *BC Sessional Papers*. Contains the *1871 Schedule of all Indian Reserves (surveyed) in the Province of British Columbia* and edited versions of the texts of the Vancouver Island (Douglas) Treaties (see MS-0772 for copies of the originals). NW970.5 B862p

British Columbia. *Report of the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for British Columbia*. Victoria: Acme Press, 1916. 4 vols. Known as the McKenna-McBride Commission Report. Contents: v.1: Babine, Bella Coola, Cowichan, Kamloops; v.2: Kootenay, Kwawkwalth, Lytton; v.3: Naas, New Westminster, Okanagan, Queen Charlotte v.4: Stikine, Stuart Lake, Treaty No. 8, West Coast, Williams Lake. NW970.5 B862.

British Columbia. *Statutes of British Columbia*. 1871- . Use the *Index to the Journals of the Legislative Assembly* to locate specific acts. NW348.711 B862

British Columbia. Legislative Assembly. *Sessional Papers*. Published papers and reports tabled in the Legislative Assembly, many related to aboriginal issues. Although an index to the *Sessional Papers* does not exist the *Index to the Journals of the Legislative Assembly* can be used to locate material in the *Sessional Papers*. Microfilm D25

Canada. *Indian Affairs Annual Reports*. 1864-1990. Available in hardcopy, microfilm (D28 1874-1936) and on the web ([www.collectionscanada.ca/indianaffairs/index-e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/indianaffairs/index-e.html)). Issued as reports of the Secretary of State to 1873, the Department of the Interior to 1879, the Department of Indian Affairs to 1936, the Department of Mines and Resources to 1950, the Department of Citizenship and Immigration to 1965, and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to 1990. Also published separately in the *Canada Sessional Papers*.

Canada. Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. *Schedule of Indian reserves and settlements*. 1966 -. Title and frequency vary. Earlier schedules were published as supplement to the Annual Reports (1912/1913 for example). BC Archives has 1966 (NW970.52 C213 1966), 1972 (NW970.52 C213 1972), 1983 (NW970.52 S315) and 1990 (NW970.52 S315 1990).

Canada. Parliament. Special Committees of the Senate and House of Commons meeting in joint session to inquire into the claims of the Allied Indian Tribes of British Columbia, as set forth in their petition submitted to Parliament in June 1926. *Proceedings, reports and the evidence*. Ottawa: King's Printer, 1927. Appendix no. 2 to the Journals of the House of Commons, 1926-27. NW970.5 C214p Also published as Appendix to the Journals of the Senate of Canada (Special Joint Committee of the Senate and House of Commons appointed to inquire into the claims of the Allied Indian Tribes of British Columbia, as set forth in their petition submitted to Parliament in June 1926. *Report and evidence*. Ottawa: King's Printer, 1927. NW970.5 C214cr)

Canada. *Statutes of Canada. Indian Act*. 1876- . Certain editions of the *Indian Act* were published separately. See *The historical development of the Indian Act* for a brief history (NW970.5 H673).

Fox, Christina. *Index to the Journals of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, 1st session of the first Parliament, 1872 to the 2nd session of the twenty-ninth Parliament, 1971, inclusive*. Victoria: Provincial Library, 1974. NW328.71 F791

Hendrickson, James E., ed. *Journals of the Colonial Legislatures of the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, 1851-1871*. Victoria: Provincial Archives of British Columbia, 1980. 5 vols. NW328.71101 J86

*Schedule of Indian reserves in the Province of British Columbia (Ditchburn-Clark report)*. See GR-0931 and GR-2039 [B0085]

### **Some useful texts dealing with land and treaty issues**

Cail, Robert E. *Land, man, and the law : the disposal of Crown lands in British Columbia, 1871-1913*. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1974. NW971.24 C134

Duff, Wilson, "The Fort Victoria treaties", *BC Studies* 3 (Fall 1969), pp. 3-57. NW971K B119 no.3

Excell, Robert, "History of Indian land claims in B.C.", *The Advocate*, vol. 48, pt. 6 (December 1990), pp. 866-880. The text of the article is also available at <http://www3.telus.net/creatorcircle/Articles/LandClaimsInBC1.pdf> .

Fisher, Robin, "Joseph Trutch and Indian land policy", in J. Friesen and H.K. Ralston, eds. *Historical essays on British Columbia*. Toronto, 1976. NW971K F912

Harris, R. Cole, *Making native space: colonialism, resistance, and reserves in British Columbia*, Vancouver: UBC Press, 2002.

Madill, Dennis. *British Columbia Indian treaties in historical perspective*. [Ottawa]: Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, 1981. NW970.53 M182 Also available at [http://epe.lac-bac.gc.ca/100/200/301/inac-ainc/bc\\_indian\\_treaties-e/treC-B\\_e.pdf](http://epe.lac-bac.gc.ca/100/200/301/inac-ainc/bc_indian_treaties-e/treC-B_e.pdf)

Madill, Dennis. *Selected annotated bibliography on B.C. Indian policy and land claims*. Ottawa: Research Branch, Indian and Northern Affairs, 1982. NWp016.97053 M182

Morales, Robert. "James Douglas meet Delgamuukw: the implications of the Delgamuukw decision on the Douglas treaties." Good historical background to the treaties pp.3-10. <http://www.delgamuukw.org/research/douglastreaties.htm>

Tennant, Paul. *Aboriginal peoples and politics : the Indian land question in British Columbia, 1849-1989*. Vancouver : University of British Columbia Press, c1990 NW970.5 T296

Ware, Reuben. *The lands we lost: a history of cut-off lands and land losses from Indian reserves in British Columbia*. Vancouver: UBCIC, 1974. NW970.52 W2711. Available on UBCIC web site at [http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/files/PDF/McKenna\\_McBride/lands.pdf](http://www.ubcic.bc.ca/files/PDF/McKenna_McBride/lands.pdf).

### **Native education and residential schools**

Education and schooling of the aboriginal population of British Columbia was, as elsewhere in Canada, the responsibility of the federal government, although often undertaken by church organizations. The most well-known aspect is, of course, the residential school. A useful starting point is *Native Residential Schools in Canada: A Selective Bibliography*, compiled by Amy Fisher and Deborah Lee April 2002 available on the Library and Archives Canada web site <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/native-residential/index-e.html>. It includes "books, scholarly articles, school histories, personal accounts, theses, videos, and Internet resources." A search of the library catalogue on the BC Archives web site using the search phrase "residential school?" will yield titles held in our collection. One useful publication, not in our collection, is *A national crime: the Canadian government and the residential school system, 1879-1986*, by John S. Milloy (University of Manitoba Press, 1999). A comprehensive study, based on his extensive research for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, it also contains a lengthy bibliography.

### **Museum and ethnological publications**

Museum publications are a rich source of ethnological information. Some important early publications include those of the Bureau of American Ethnology (Smithsonian Institution), the American Museum of Natural History (including the Memoirs of the Jesup Expedition) and the National Museum of Canada. For a guide to the BAE publications consult the *List of publications of the Bureau of American Ethnology with index to authors and titles*, Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1971 (for an electronic version see <http://www.sil.si.edu/DigitalCollections/BAE/Bulletin200/200title.htm>). Recent Canadian

Museum of Civilization publications cover a wide range of First Nations topics (for a list see <http://www.civilization.ca/pub/mpub16e.html>). Many pertain to British Columbia. A number of British Columbia Provincial Museum/Royal British Columbia Museum publications also deal with various ethnological, archaeological and ethnobotanical subjects. For a list of publications before 1992 see "One hundred years in print: a checklist of publications by the British Columbia Provincial Museum/Royal British Columbia Museum 1891-1991" (available at the Reference Desk).

Ethnological observations are often to be found in early Geological Survey of Canada publications (e.g. G.M. Dawson's *Report on the Queen Charlotte Islands, 1878*). Early ethnological information can also be found in the *Report on the ethnological survey of Canada (1897-1902)* and in the *Reports on the north-western tribes of Canada (1885-1898)*, both published by the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

### Periodicals

Do not overlook the information to be found in the journal literature. A number of journals are held at the BC Archives. Some of the articles have been entered separately in the library catalog. As well, some, such journals as *BC Studies* and *Okanagan History* have online indexes (see [http://www.bcstudies.com/cumulative\\_index/search.html](http://www.bcstudies.com/cumulative_index/search.html) and <http://royal.okanagan.bc.ca/info/ohs.html>) as well as printed indexes. For others, such as the *Canadian Journal of Native Studies*, they may be indexed as part of a group of journals (e.g.) <http://www.lights.com/sifc/search.html>. Journals may also have their own websites with tables of contents listed by issue and/or be indexed in various commercial indexes such as the Canadian Periodical Index. The BC Archives does not have the hardcopy of these indexes. Access to the electronic versions, if they exist, may be available at public and university libraries.

### MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL

Manuscript materials are **unpublished, textual** records, (e.g. correspondence of G.M. Sproat, Joint Reserve Commissioner or Royal Commission on Indian Affairs transcripts of hearings). They can be private records or government records and can be typed as well as handwritten. These are considered primary sources, and you will need to analyse and interpret them in order to make them useful to your research.

Note: A number of these have been catalogued as manuscripts, others as library material. Search both the library and textual record catalogues if you are looking for a particular thesis.

As with published sources, there is both a card and an online index to records. The card index (Government Records & Historical Manuscripts Catalogue – Old System) uses the old cataloguing classification (e.g. A/AE/Su8) and can be searched by subject, title and creator of the record. Some of these records have been described as *fonds* and can be searched online using the Fonds Descriptions search option on our web site or through the BC Archival Union List (BCAUL) (<http://aabc.bc.ca/aabc/bcaul.html>).

Textual records indexed online are catalogued as either a government record accession (GR) or a private record accession (MS). Many have Finding Aids attached. Copies are also located in the Reference Room. Finding Aids can be box lists, file lists, volume lists,

microfilm reel lists or indexes and should be consulted to help identify the items you require. Newer record descriptions are organized by the creator or collector and are termed *fonds*. These are available online using the Fonds Descriptions search option or through the BC Archival Union List (BCAUL) (<http://aabc.bc.ca/aabc/bcaul.html>). Note that a *fonds*, e.g. the Dept. of Lands and Works *fonds*, usually comprises several call numbers. Check the black duotang binders in the Reference Room, using the AAAA number, to obtain a list of call or accession numbers. Both our online catalogue and BCAUL can be searched by keyword.

Our catalogue headings describe material by beginning with the general and working down to a more specific sub-heading. If you are interested in an individual, always check under his/her name first.

### Government Records

Because of the way they were accessioned prior to *fonds* descriptions, records, especially government records, by a particular creator may be found in several different accessions. Binders organized by government department describe the various accessions associated with each department and are located on top of the card catalogue.

The most obvious and heavily used set of records is commonly referred to as the **RG10 series**\*. These are “the historical records relating to Indian Affairs created by the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and its predecessors. They include files, correspondence, letters and transcripts on all aspects of Indian administration for both headquarters and the field offices.” The originals are held by Library and Archives Canada. RG10 consists of 4 series: Pre-Confederation records, Headquarters records (including the Black (Western) Series and the School Files), Field Office records and Land records. For a general description of these records see the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development *fonds* description (black duotang binder AAAA1330). For other federal government records see the Indian Affairs binder (no. 25) or Library and Archives Canada aboriginal resources (see above), The BC Archives has copies of some of the RG10 records on microfilm (listed in the Appendix at the end of this guide), mostly relating to British Columbia. Although there is a printed guide, it is out of date. The best way to find records in RG10 is to search Government of Canada Files (limiting to RG10 records) on Archivanet ([http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivanet/02010502\\_e.html](http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivanet/02010502_e.html)) or search the RG10 database on the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs (UBCIC) website (<http://rg10.andornot.com/>). The former may be more up to date and yield more results.) If a microfilm reel number is given for a citation, you can check the conversion list in the Indian Affairs binder for the BC Archives reel number, if we have a copy. If we do not have a copy, you may request the reel(s) on interlibrary loan, either through the BC Archives or your local library. If there is no reel number, the document is available only in the original and Library and Archives Canada must be contacted directly to request a copy.

Also, be aware that there are other guides which you should review for records created by provincial government ministries and departments. For example, the Department of the Attorney General had wide ranging responsibilities, and therefore produced records

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\* RG refers to “Record Group”. RG10 is now part of the larger Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development fonds (R216-0-0-F) which also includes RG22, RG85, RG91 and RG126. Searching on Archivanet, however, is still done by the RG number.



relating to an enormous variety of issues. The Provincial Secretary's Department was also used as an "umbrella", being responsible at various times for such unrelated areas as health and welfare; and treasury and audit. You will also find records relating to native issues in Lands records and Executive Council records. For an index to Indian related correspondence in the Department of Lands and Works files, 1871-1912, see MS-2728. Also, do not forget the records created during the Colonial period; some are included in the ministry and department guides, while others can be found in special collections such as the Colonial Correspondence series (GR-1372) and various Colonial Office records. Staff can advise you on how to access this material.

Non-RG 10 government records of interest include:

- GR-0111 Provincial Museum correspondence inward 1897-1970 (see also MS-1077, Newcombe family papers).
- GR-0200 Records pertaining to Indian lands 1859-1870. Copies from the Public Record Office, London, of proclamations, correspondence, and despatches from successive Secretaries of State to the Governor of British Columbia pertaining to Indian lands and Crown lands.
- GR-0332 Colonial Office correspondence with Hudson's Bay Co. with regard to Vancouver Island 1822-1880
- GR-0494 Indian Reserve Commission records 1876-1878
- GR-0495 Joint Reserve Commission correspondence 1877-1878. See also GR-1965 and *fonds* description (black duotang binder AAAA1333).
- GR-0672 Royal Commission on Indian Affairs draft report 1913-1916. See GR-1995.
- GR-1071 Indian Advisory Committee 1948-1952. See *fonds* description (black duotang binder AAAA1332).
- GR-1181 Canada. Dept. Of Indian Affairs. Schedule of Indian Reserves in the Dominion, supplement to Annual Report of the Department of Indian Affairs, 1902 and 1913 annotated by William Ernest Ditchburn, Indian Superintendent for British Columbia.
- GR-1995 Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for the Province of British Columbia (1913-1916). Transcripts of evidence taken at hearings and copies of minutes of decision. See NW970.5 B862 for the published report (described on p. 4) and GR-0672 for the draft report.
- GR-2809 Research notes of Wilson Duff. Duff was curator of anthropology at the BC Provincial Museum from 1950-1965. Includes field notes of other BCPM curators as well as Duff's research and field notes.
- GR-2982 Indian Reserve Commission minutes of decision 1876-1907. Minutes of decision of Joint Indian Reserve Commission (1876-1878) of governments of Canada

and British Columbia and of the Indian Reserve Commission (1878-1907) of the government of Canada regarding allotment of Indian reserves in British Columbia.

### **Non-government records**

Many private records exist. Records were created by institutions such as the Hudson's Bay Company, schools and churches and by various individuals. The entries in the guides and the catalogues will give you a basic description of a collection, the inclusive dates, and its extent. The number on the top left side of the card is the call number of the collection. Some of these records are listed below. Consult the Finding Aids and catalogue descriptions for a more complete description.

#### Hudson's Bay Company records

- MS-0772 Register of Hudson's Bay Company land purchases from Indians in the neighborhood of Fort Victoria, 1850-1852 and record of agreements with Indians [Douglas treaties], etc. Available on microfilm reel A01285.
- MS-2053 and MS-2878. Register for microfilmed documents at the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, ca. 1670-1949. On microfilm reels A01270, A01271, A01815.
- F/53/H86 Copy of return of treaties made by Hudson's Bay Company with Indian tribes shewing lands conveyed and sums paid 1850-1854

#### Other private records

- MS-1077 Newcombe family papers 1870-1955. Correspondence, notebooks, subject files, annotated books, etc., of C.F. Newcombe and W.A. Newcombe, reflecting their interest in the ethnology, natural history and history of British Columbia. Includes G.T. Emmons correspondence, notes and manuscripts, mainly on the Tlingit Indians.
- MS-1116 and MS-2720 Society for the Furtherance of B.C. Indian Arts and Crafts/Indian Arts and Welfare Society records 1939-1954.
- MS-1175 Denys Nelson papers re British Columbia Indians 1923-1927.
- MS-1290 John Douglas Leechman papers 1924-1978. National Museum of Canada anthropologist.
- MS-2101 Marius Barbeau's Northwest Coast files 1910-1969. National Museum of Canada ethnologist active in BC. See John Cove, *A detailed inventory of the Barbeau Northwest Coast files* NW016.9703 T67b.
- MS-2181 and MS-2763 Emily Carr papers 1879-1946. Includes Carr's views on her Native subjects and on Native art.
- A/B/40/D75.2 Diary of a trip to the Northwest Coast, April 22-October 1840. Includes "Notes on traditions and population of the Indians of the Northwest Coast". Transcript catalogued as F1/D75.

- B/20/1853 Part of the Sir James Douglas private papers. Includes census of Indian population in Vancouver Island and British Columbia, pp. 5-30. Available on microfilm reel 737A.
- H/D/R13 George Henry Raley papers, ca. 1893-1957. Methodist missionary in Kitimat and Fort Simpson. Principal at the Coqualeetza Institute (Indian School) in Sardis from 1914 to 1945. He conducted extensive research into totem poles, Indian crafts and the Kitimat Indian language.

**Access restrictions** may exist on both government and non-government records. Most provincial government records are subject to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* (FOIPPA) as well as the federal *Youth Criminal Justice Act*. Private records are subject to restrictions imposed by the donor. Researchers are advised to verify the current access status of records they wish to consult, PRIOR to visiting the Archives, by contacting the Reference Desk (250-387-1952).

### **MAPS, PHOTOGRAPHS AND OTHER IMAGES, SOUND RECORDINGS, MOVING IMAGES, NEWSPAPERS, VERTICAL FILES, VITAL EVENTS RECORDS**

A general description of and access tools for these resources can be found in the *Research Orientation Guide*.

**Maps:** Use place names, or regions, names of reserves and subjects such as “fur trade” or “trapping” as well as subjects starting with “indian” when consulting the cartographic records card catalogue in the Reference Room and online. Finding aids exist for some of the map collections, e.g. CM\_E117 Trapline maps of central and northern British Columbia. They are located on the top of the map microfiche cabinet. Other than checking the cartographic catalogues, it may also be useful to look at the *Historical atlas of Canada* (NW911.71 H674 v.1-3), *A Sto:lo Coast Salish historical atlas* (NW971.11 S8 2001), *Historical atlas of British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest* (NW911.7 H417 1999) and *Atlas of Indian reserves & settlements of Canada, 1971* (NW912.7052 A88a).

**Photographs and other images.** There are various binders of First Nations photographs in the Photo Reference Room. Photographs may also be found in the collection organized by place name and in the portrait files, organized by surname. Search online by band, place or personal name for photographs, paintings, drawings and prints. Try variant names and spellings, truncation and wild cards (e.g. kwak?, na?s) as names are not standardized in the database. A “List of paintings, drawings and prints in the Provincial Archives of British Columbia dealing with Indian subject matter or by Indian artists” [excluding works by Emily Carr] can be found in the Photo Reference Room. First Nations photographs are also to be found in the Audio-Visual Collection of the Museum (<http://www.royalbcmuseum.bc.ca/audio-visual/aud-vis.html>). An appointment is necessary to view this collection (250-387-2434). For an historical overview of First Nations photography in Canada and in British Columbia see Brock V. Silversides. *The face-pullers: photographing Native Canadians, 1871-1939*. Calgary: Fifth House, 2001 [NW 970.1 S587] and Daniel Francis. *Copying people: photographing British Columbia First Nations, 1860-1940*. Saskatoon: Fifth House, 1996 [NW 979.997 F735 1996]. See

<http://curtis.library.northwestern.edu/> for the photographs by E.S. Curtis published in *The North American Indian*.

**Sound recordings.** These include music as well as oral history. Only a card index exists and subject coverage is not complete. Search by name, title or subject. There may be access and/or copying restrictions. Sound recordings also form part of the Museum's Audio-Visual Collection (see above). Some oral history recordings have been excerpted and published in the BC Archives *Sound Heritage* series. For a list of titles see <http://www.bcareives.gov.bc.ca/sn-568862A/general/guides/publicat.htm>.

**Moving images.** Some films date back to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Search the online database by keyword or subject. If a specific term does not yield anything, or anything relevant, try broadening your search and checking the description and subject headings of likely citations for more useful search terms. A truncated keyword search on "indian?" yields over 160 hits. Two useful guides to films produced in British Columbia are *Motion picture production in British Columbia, 1898-1940* (NW791.43 B882) and *Camera west: British Columbia on film, 1941-1965* (NW791.43 D858).

**Newspapers:** In addition to specific Native newspapers, e.g. *Ha-Shilth-Sa*, there are many community newspapers which will contain reports relating to First Nations issues. If you know the date of an event, check the newspaper for that time period. Depending on the time period, and the newspaper, there may be a subject index. See the *Research Orientation Guide* for more details.

**Vertical files:** These are collections of newspaper and magazine clippings and other material prior to 1984. Both the index and files are on microfilm. A four volume hardcopy file list, arranged alphabetically, is also available.

**Vital events records:** Although some may have been microfilmed separately, e.g. Indian marriages, they are all included in the Genealogical Indexes on the BC Archives web site. Be aware, however, that early Native births, deaths and marriages were not recorded by the Vital Statistics Branch and that the spelling of names may vary. Try variant spellings and/or use the Approximate Match option.

## ***Appendix***

### **“RG 10” (NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA RECORD GROUP 10) RECORDS AT THE BC ARCHIVES**

GR-0123 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs British Columbia, 1858-1968. Records of the Office of the Indian Reserve Commissioner for British Columbia (1884-1898), the Office of the Indian Superintendent for British Columbia (1884-1894), plus records of the Office of the Indian Commissioner for B.C. and its antecedent, Office of the Chief-Inspector of Indian Agencies (1910-1956). Also included are records of the Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for British Columbia (1858-1930) along with field office records of the Nass, Skeena, and Queen Charlotte Indian agencies.

GR-0358 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs. 1879-1953. Computerized finding aids to the School files. B-01854 contains a subject file, arranged alphabetically by school and agency. B-01855 contains a volume list.

GR-0933 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1876-1910. Records of the Indian Reserve Commission (Joint Reserve Commission) relating to the allotment and establishment of Indian reserves in BC.

GR-0934 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1879-1956. Central Registry system files. Miscellaneous files relating to Indian affairs in British Columbia. Includes files re Indian schools, game laws, trapping, fur conservation, fisheries and fishing regulations, enlistments, war funds and Indian veterans' pensions.

GR-1303 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs. 1874-1920. Correspondence and representations received by the Royal Commission (McKenna-McBride) re the administration of Indian Affairs. Also included are various accounts re the compiling and printing of the Commission's 1916 Report.

GR-1342 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs. 1874-1954. Finding aid for central registry files, 1833-1956, RG 10, volumes 7740-7919. This list shows Public Archives of Canada microfilm reel numbers, but contains only a portion of Record Group 10, central registry files available on microfilm. These files relate to all aspects of the administration of Indian Affairs throughout Canada. Topics include leases, rights of way, mining rights, timber resources, surveys and surrenders.

GR-1550 Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1833-1971. Central registry files.

GR-1597 Canada. Dept. Of Indian Affairs, 1893-1909. Letterbooks of the School Branch. Copies of letters sent by the Deputy Superintendent General concerning Indian school affairs.

GR-1729 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1876 – 1920. Letterbooks containing copies of departmental correspondence relating to the administration of Indian affairs in both eastern and western Canada.

GR-1751 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1872-1950. Central Registry System: Black (Western) series. The Black Series files deal with almost all aspects of the administration

of Indian Affairs in Western Canada, 1872-1959. (The bulk of the records concern the period 1872-1923).

GR-2042 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1910-1920. Records of the British Columbia Superintendency. Includes letterbook, 1910-1919, of the Surveyor's Office, Victoria, correspondence re the surveys of Indian Reserves; letterbooks, 1910-1920, of the Inspector of Indian Agencies.

GR-2043 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1881-1948. Records of British Columbia Indian Agencies; letterbooks, letters inward, subject files, general administration files, agents' journals, constable's reports, agricultural and industrial statistics, correspondence re Royal Commission on Indian Affairs for the Province of British Columbia (1913-1916). Includes Alert Bay (1891-1909, 1913-1914), Babine (1888-1905), Bella Coola (1915- 1921), Cowichan (1881-1948), Kamloops (1888-1915), Kootenay (1906- 1919), New Westminster (1897-1922), Queen Charlotte (1888-1923), Stuart Lake (1910-1919), and West Coast (1895-1920) Indian Agencies.

GR-2686 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs. 1890-1952. School files.

GR-2759 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs, 1905-1953. School files. Mainly volumes relating to the Lejac Residential School but some volumes on the Colqualeetza and Kamloops Residential Schools.

GR-2928 Canada. Dept. of Indian Affairs. 1876-1897. Non- official census records of Indians in British Columbia in the following regions: Okanagan Agency, Cowichan Agency, New Westminster Agency, Shuswap and Okanagan Districts, New Westminster, Yale and Coast Districts, Vancouver, Northern Vancouver Island, and Babine Agency. Volumes 10010-10012a also contain comments by the Indian Reserve Commission of 1876-1877 regarding setting up of reserves.