

# **Annotated Bibliography of Articles related to BC Food History in *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly* (1968 – 2017) Volumes 1-192.**

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Note on Review Process – titles labeled “articles” or “review articles” were examined in each volume and those related to food, food production, agriculture, farming, ranching, plants and animals consumed as food, tools or technology used in food production and consumption were read and annotated here. The annotations are organized by topics and in alphabetical order by author.

## **Topics:**

**[Agriculture, Farming and Food Production](#)**

**[Canneries](#)**

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**[First Nations and Indigenous Food Sources](#)**

**[Fish and Fisheries](#)**

## **Agriculture, Farming and Food Production**

Demeritt, D. (1995). Visions of agriculture in British Columbia. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (108), 29-59.

Key Words: agriculture; arcadianism; agrarianism; Country Life movement

### **Annotation**

The author argues that typical economic and sociological accounts of agriculture have taken a political perspective using grand historical phrases such pre-capitalist/capitalist and pre-Fordism/Fordism. He suggest that a more robust understanding of the family farm can be achieved by focusing the social discourses of the time, in this case for the period between the completion of the railroad and World War II in Canada. Using the notion of discourse, as defined by Foucault, as ways of constituting knowledge, together with the social practices, forms of subjectivity and power relations which inhere in such knowledges and relations between them, he elaborated three discourses: arcadianism; agrarianism; and Country Life movement. Each has a particular vision of agriculture. Arcadianism involves the romantic notion of the gentleman farmer and the moral and personal benefits of country living promoted by land speculators to the middle classes particularly British immigrants. Agrarianism stresses the importance of the family farm and taming the wilderness by the pioneer farmer and his frugal hardworking wife. The aim of the Country Life Movement is to prevent rural depopulation, social stagnation and

economic decline by various educational and social initiatives, for example, Women's and Farmers Institutes, business efficiency, scientific farming and cooperatives. What each of these discourses have in common is the belief that rural life is the good life.

Garrish, C. (2002/03). Unscrambling the omelette: understanding British Columbia's Agricultural Land Reserve, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (136), 25-55.  
Key Words: Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), policy development

#### Annotation

This account, written almost 30 years since the establishment of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the administrative authority the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), sets the notion of agricultural land reserves in historical context tracing it to restrictive covenants and American influences such as the environmental movement which caused a re-evaluation of land use. Then the author outlines why the ALC decisions have been controversial and the objectives of the ALR difficult to achieve attributing this to the urban – rural divide and the influence of urban values. Using several examples to illustrate, he explores the question whether devolution is a “phantom menace” or “new hope”.

Jones, D. C. (1978). “We cannot allow it to be run by those who do not understand education.” Agricultural schooling in the twenties. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (39), 30- 60.

Key Words: Agricultural Instruction Act; early history of Elementary Agriculture Education in British Columbia; role of fairs and exhibitions

#### Annotation

The Agricultural Instruction Act introduced in 1913 prompted a diversity of programs throughout the country until it was terminated in 1925. This account focuses on British Columbia and how it was implemented under the direction of John Wesley Gibson who was the Director of Elementary Agriculture Education from 1914 to 1929. The vision of the act was to revive the rural areas of the country through the schools. Gibson's vision was that agricultural activities in schools were for character building. He put in place a system of district supervisors who began the first phase of agriculture education, gardening programs. Since climate and a number of other factors limited the success of gardening a second phase was implemented involving livestock, mandatory home projects and school clubs. These projects by both boys and girls were then exhibited at local fairs or exhibitions. A good portion of the article articulates the difficulties with the exhibitions that led to the demise of the school program particularly the competing values of commercialism and competition versus character building.

Maglughlan, M. (1974-75). The success of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (24), 52-64.

Key Words: history of the dairy industry in BC, milk products, agricultural cooperatives

#### Annotation

This article traces the history of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association from 1913 to 1969 outlining its formation, how it has been able to survive adversity (e.g., the depression of the 1930's which caused the collapse of most coo-operatives) and factors that have led to its success (e.g., the invention of centrifugal cream separator and the establishment creameries; geographic advantage; shrewd leadership; ability to regulate the market). It has very detailed economic information and a strong discussion of the impact of provincial legislation. It is a case study of an agricultural cooperative and of the influence of marketing boards in British Columbia.

Murton, J. (2014/15) The long question of food and land: A review essay, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (184), 125-137.

Key Words: farming; historical memory

#### Annotation

This is a review essay where the author uses four publications to discuss farming that he argues "has never loomed large in British Columbia's public heritage and historical memory" (p. 126). The books are: *A Year at Killara Farm* by Christine Allen; *The Light through the Trees: Reflections on Land and Farming* by Luanne Armstrong; *Ginty's Ghost: A Wilderness Dweller's Dream* by Chris Czajkowski; and *Keeping It Living: Traditions of Plant Use and Cultivation on the Northwest Coast of North America* by Douglas Deur and Nancy J. Turner. He uses the last book to show that cultivation and food production was in place long before the first settlers arrived but "to European colonizers and anthropologists this did not look like farming. Farming meant tidy rows of one plant, enclosed by fences and replanted from seed every year, not a collection of perennial crops growing together in polycultures" (p. 127). Since it was not recognized as farming, the settlers "imposed a Cartesian landscape of reworked ecosystems marked out by fences and patrolled by farm families well aware of their property rights, a landscape with no room for the subsistence systems of First Nations" (p. 129) as variously illustrated by the other three books. In both situations, colonial farms and First Nation's food cultivation the main motivation was finding a way to address hunger. However the subsistence value of small farms is frequently dismissed or ignored with governments primarily interested in commercial agriculture and historians reliant on government sources.

Petter, A. (1985). Sausage making in British Columbia's NDP government: The creation of the Land Commission Act, August 1972-April 1973. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (65), 3-33.

Key Words: Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), policy development

#### Annotation

This is not about sausage making, rather sausage making is used as a metaphor to explain that much like sausages, people might not want to know what went into the creation of the Agricultural Land Reserve. The Land Commission Act in 1973, established the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission, was created to preserve agricultural land and foster farming thus ensuring food production for the future in the province. It is often held up as the model for land preservation and future food security preventing the loss of prime agricultural land to residential and urban development. This article concentrates on the how such foresighted legislation was able to come into being. It provides some background on previous efforts but mainly gives a blow by blow account of the events and players (particularly David Stupich, Minister of Agriculture and Sigurd Peterson, who was the appointed deputy minister) in the establishment of the ALR. It is a study of policy development particularly demonstrating how the lack of planning structures and of the influence of individuals and political will enabled the creation of the act.

Riis, N. (1973). The Walhachin myth: A study in settlement abandonment, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (17), 3 – 25.

Key Words: agricultural settlement failure; Walhachin

#### Annotation

Riis argues that current settlement abandonment studies of the British settlement of Walhachin in British Columbia have not sufficiently elaborated the interplay of cultural and environmental factors. The failure of the community is most often attributed to the casualties suffered by the Walhachin volunteers in World War I, but as Riis points out land speculation, incorrect assumptions about the quality of the land and climate for agriculture, an unreliable irrigation system combined with the unrealistic expectations of the settlers who had little knowledge of agriculture also played a role in the demise of the community. Riis concludes that “Walhachin should be recognized as paradigmatic of agriculture settlement failure” (p. 23).

Russo, R. (2011). Temporarily unchained: The drive to unionize foreign seasonal agricultural workers in Canada – A comment on Greenway Farms and UFCW. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (169), 131-141.

Key Words: trade unions; agricultural workers; labour boards

#### Annotation

The two opening sentences of this article give a succinct overview of the paper. “This

case comment addresses the struggle to unionize temporary foreign agricultural labour in British Columbia. It focuses on the BC Labour Board's decision to permit the unionization of seasonal agricultural workers who come to Canada through the federally administered Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP)" (p. 131). Farm workers are largely invisible in Canadian society. Many are here to do seasonal jobs that Canadians don't or won't fill. The statistics of death and injuries on the job are appalling. This case study follows the efforts of the United Food and Commercial Workers of Canada (UFCW) Local 1518 attempt to unionize workers at one particular farm, Greenway. The farm fought this and took their concerns in June 2009, to the BC Labour Relations Board which ruled that SAWP workers in British Columbia could unionize. However as the section "after Greenway" indicated this didn't lead to better working conditions. In fact, even though workers had the right to organize, employers have the ability not to hire them so the following year Greenway did not hire those who had been active in the union drive and those remaining fearing for their jobs voted to decertify. Thus the collective bargaining process while normally offering workers some protection actually made them more vulnerable and up to the time the article was written no action was taken by the federal government to address this.

Stobbe, T. (2014) Green noise: Measuring the value of agricultural noise in the urban fringe, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (183), 127-144.

Key Words: agricultural noise; urbanization; farmland

Increasingly urbanization is bumping up to or infringing on prime agricultural and causing tension in the border areas known as urban fringe. This is very apparent in the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley region of British Columbia as it contains some of Canada's most fertile farmland and is one of the province's fastest-growing metropolitan areas. This article focuses on the issue of noise. The author explains that the nuisance value of noise, or the amenity value of quiet, are what economists refer to as non-market-traded (or non-market) goods and outlines two ways noise is evaluated: contingent valuation that estimates people's willingness to pay; and hedonistic pricing that places value on the amenity or dis-amenity of a location by considering its effect on the housing market. This was followed by a report on a study of people's tolerance for the propane cannons that are used in blueberry farming to scare birds away from the consuming the crop. A survey of a random sampling of households who live within nine hundred meters of a noise-producing blueberry fields was conducted. Ninety-seven percent of the households reported that they knew commercial agricultural operations can produce noise, dust, and odour as part of their ongoing operations when they moved into their current house but they were still acrimonious about the noise. Makes one wonder about consumer decision making.

## **Canneries**

Stewart, J. (1992). The Kamloops canneries: The rise and fall of a local industry, 1913-1990. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (93), 30-47.

Key Words: commercial canning of tomatoes and vegetables; demise of resource industries

### **Annotation**

This article describes commercial canneries that existed in the Kamloops area in BC over an eight decade period. It is a case study of the history of one resource industry but many of the factors also apply to other resources. The resource in this instance was tomatoes that were grown between the trees in the orchards in the Kamloops area. The article documents the opening and closures of various canneries: the first cannery at Walhachin (1913); the Kamloops Cannery (1915) that was bought by Western Packing Company (1926), went into bankruptcy, then was bought by Charles Bickford (1929) who ran it until 1944 when it was sold to Royal City Cannery; canneries owned by Frank Carlin, James Skelly. The author also sets these canneries in context, describing the state of canning in the whole of British Columbia and the rest of Canada. "Seventy-two fruit and vegetable canneries operated in British Columbia in 1953. This number had declined to 45 by 1960 and to 17 by 1975" (p. 40). In Kamloops all the tomato canneries were gone by the 1960's. The factors that accounted for this decline (e.g., foreign ownership, vertical integration, improved refrigeration, centralization, shortage of cheap labour, increased competition from US growers, short growing season, lack of economies of scale, ineffective tariff protection) are explained in detail.

## **Communities, Towns and Cities**

Hessing, M. (2010). After the harvest: Towards a sustainable Okanagan? *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (168), 121-134.

Key Words: Okanagan Valley; sustainability; issues of growth

### **Annotation**

In this commentary, the author shares her observations of the impact of dramatic growth in Okanagan Valley in British Columbia in the forty years she has lived in the area. She describes how the valley has changed from three small towns with farms, ranches and orchards to "post-subsistence" urban sprawl with vineyards and agro-tourism. She wonders whether continued growth and maintaining the current standard of living is sustainable. She elaborates some of the environmental impacts such as declining air quality, loss of biodiversity, water issues, skyrocketing land prices, and land use issues. She argues for addressing issues of sustainability saying that adaptation is the key to managing development for the common good. Although she doesn't sound that hopeful as she does note that human endeavours (i.e., anthropocentrism) dominate the public discourse. Sustainability is a ubiquitous term, but seldom elaborated. The paper would

benefit from considering more than just “adaptation” to what is necessary to adapt in in sustainably ways such as learning to think and behave in ways that honour and sustain the natural world, the intrinsic value of the land and biodiversity. She hints at this with comments like “while the land is geographically fixed, our ideas about, connections to, and visions of this place are dynamic” (p. 133).

Reid, J. (2008/9). The grasslands debates: Conservationists, ranchers, First Nations, and the landscape of the Middle Fraser. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (160), 93-118.

Key Words: Grassland, ranching, First Nations, conservationists

#### Annotation

Often controversial issues are presented in broad strokes with the players presented in stereotypical terms missing the complexity of the issue, and the values, assumptions, and arguments of each position. This author draws from fifty interviews with conservationists, government employees, ranchers, and First Nations community members to provide a “nuanced characterization of the players in grassland politics and their interest” (p. 93). The context is the Middle Fraser River area of British Columbia (approximately from Williams Lake to Lillooet). A detailed elaboration of historical use of the land and legislated decisions that have affected the use and ecology of the area combined with a deeper understanding of the impact on the environment, economy and livelihoods lead the author to conclude that four basic changes to land allocation and use are necessary: address the issue of Aboriginal title; allocate additional lands for protection from livestock grazing; support ranchers who are using ecological conservation practices; and encourage ranchers to place conservation covenants on their properties in order to protect ecological values.

## Cookbooks

Hlina, J. (2001/02). Delicious diversity: A review essay. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (132), 81-84.

Key Words: Cookbooks

### Annotation

This rather short essay describes eleven cookbooks that were published in 2000 or 2001. Ten of the eleven were published by BC presses (the one exception was from the University of Alberta). As the title suggests these cookbooks have only one thing in common, they are all cookbooks. The author provides a description of each but makes no attempt to categorize or theorize the historical significance except to say that they indicate food trends in BC. Although she doesn't specifically name the trends it is possible to identify the following: retro recipes (replica edition of the 1915 *Five Roses Cook Book*); cultural diversity (*Salmon House on the Hill Cook Book*; *New Thai Cuisine*; *The Lazy Gourmet*; *Go Ahead Make My Curry!*); barbecuing (*In a Flash*); sustainable consumption (*Fish for Thought: An Eco-Cookbook*); vegetarianism (*How it all Vegan*), and focusing on a single ingredient (*Chicken! Chicken! Chicken! and More Chicken!*; *Rhubarb: More Than Just Pies*).

Pratt, G. (1998). How to cook a deer in British Columbia: Three recipes and eighteen cookbooks. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (119), 87-95.

Key Words: cookbooks

### Annotation

This review essay analyzes a selection of cookbooks published between 1993 and 1998 in British Columbia classifying them into three distinct types or categories: vernacular; historical; or cosmopolitan. Three recipes on how to cook deer/venison, one from each of the categories are presented as examples to illustrate the typical characteristics of the type. Vernacular cookbooks tend to be small scale publications with recipes collected from family and friends. The language suggests a domestic, working class context rather than a professional context. Historical cookbooks focus on the settler experience and frequently use archival material such as photographs and oral histories. The author describes them as "bourgeois-official settler histories." She suggests that these two categories "talk back to colonial primitivizing narratives" (p. 94) where as cosmopolitan cookbooks "are tied up with middle-class formation and status distinctions" (p. 94) and in this sampling were often associated with high brow chefs and restaurants where regional cuisine means local ingredients meet multicultural experimentation. All the cookbooks are seen as having potential for exploring cultural hybridity.

## First Nations and Indigenous Food Sources

Berman, J. (2000). Red salmon and red cedar bark: Another look at the nineteenth-century Kwakwaka'wakw winter ceremonial. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (125/126), 53-98.

Key Words: First Nations, fish, traditional ecological knowledge, significance of food in ceremonies

### Annotation

This article is not specifically about food but is included here because foodways of the Kwakwaka'wakw people of Fort Rupert, British Columbia and they way their myths highlight the social, cultural, and ecological values and beliefs (some specifically related to food acquisition and consumption) are part of the story of the Winter Ceremonial. The author gives a very comprehensive account of her search for the fundamental meaning and spiritual significance of the nineteenth-century Kwakwaka'wakw Winter Ceremonial drawing heavily on myths that are reported and analyzed in great detail.

Campbell, R. A. (2004). A "Fantastic rigmarole": Deregulating aboriginal drinking In British Columbia, 1945-62, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (141), 81-104.

Key Words: liquor distribution policy; First Nations' rights

### Annotation

The author uses a riot in Prince Rupert in 1958 to set the context for a historical account of events that were set in motion to achieve legal liquor equality for British Columbia First Nations peoples in 1962. This is a very detailed account drawing from a wide range of research and newspaper account to demonstrate the discriminatory practices of the time related to whether First nations peoples were allowed access to alcohol or to establishments that sold alcohol. Very important reading given the current attempts for Truth and Reconciliation especially understanding the myths and paternalistic discourse that continue to impact First Nations peoples in British Columbia.

Deur, D., Turner, N.J., Dick, A., Sewid-Smith, D., Recalma-Clutesi, K. (2013).

Subsistence and resistance on the British Columbia Coast: Kingcome Village's estuarine gardens as contested space. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 13-37.

Key Words: estuarine gardens; colonial impact on indigenous food systems; edible roots

### Annotation

Drawing on historical accounts and the oral history of Clan Chief Adam Dick (Kwax i stal la), one of the co-authors, this article is a case study of contested space: Kingcome Village's Estuarine Gardens in Kingcome Inlet a long, narrow fjord on the mainland opposite northeastern Vancouver Island. It is an example of how the mechanisms of colonial dispossession of key food production lands contributed to the direct and indirect

erasure of Indigenous gardening practices and along with other colonial practices led to the implosion of the Kwakwaka'wakw culture. The consequences of which are still with us (e.g., diet moved away from native plant foods to outside sources of carbohydrates, food insecurity, undermining of the roles and status of women, loss of language, etc.). The land in question is where Coastal First Nations traditionally created and maintained gardens of edible roots – including springbank clover (*Trifolium wormskioldii*), Pacific silverweed (*Potentilla egedii*) and northern riceroot (*Fritillaria camschatcensis*) – through a variety of practices such as soil amendment and aeration, weeding, in situ replanting of roots, and transplanting of roots between sites. Such gardens were considered property, were managed under the guidance of clan chiefs, and were subject to rules of inheritance. The foods were important as subsistence foods and trade items. But that use was not recognized and the land was pre-empted, reclaimed and occupied by colonial settlers and converted to homesteads and economic enterprises. It continued to go unrecognized when the land was purchased 1980s by Nature Trust and administered by Ducks Unlimited overseen by the BC Government as a wetlands nature preserve. Requests by the people of Kingcome Village to use these flats for subsistence and other purposes were initially rebuffed by the conservation organizations, which viewed such uses as being largely incompatible with their conservation mandates. However, the Kwaxistalla and many others along the coast continue to express the hope that these traditional foods will once again uphold their importance as a prestigious potlatch food and as a component of the living diet of coastal First Peoples.

Hobler, P. M. (1978). A cache of Aboriginal fishing gear from the Queen Charlotte Islands, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (37), 37- 47.

Key Words: archeology, food fishing, First Nations' history, tools and implements

#### Annotation

This report documents the contents of a cache found without excavation on the west coast of Moresby Island that dates back to prehistoric or early historic times. Sixty-nine curved snap-shut hooks both one-piece and composite were found along with other objects such as cedar matting and a stick that appears to have been used for cooking fish over an open fire. Illustrations and photographs of the fishing gear are included along with an discussion of the manufacture and use of hooks. The finding supports ethnographers' and Haida claims that the Haida fished for bottom fish (cod and halibut) and perhaps more than any other BC group were dependent on these species.

Kuhnlein, H., Fediuk, K., Nelson, C., Howard, C. & Johnson, S. (2013). The legacy of the Nuxalk Food and Nutrition Program for the food security, health, and well-being of Indigenous Peoples in British Columbia, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 159-187.

Key Words: food security; traditional foods; nutritional health

#### Annotation

This is a report on a long-term project to designed to improve the general health and well-being of the Nuxalk people. The Nuxalk First Nation is located 450 kilometres northwest of Vancouver in central coastal British Columbia, accessed by land via Highway 20, 420 kilometers from Williams Lake and by sea at the port of Bella Coola. The Nuxalk Food and Nutrition Program (NFNP), began in the early 1980s to address the health problems related to the loss of a traditional diet and he rise in consumption of high processed convenience foods. Over the years the NFNP has evolved to wide range of research and participant engagement activities. Research activities included analyzing the nutritional value of Nuxalk traditional foods (e.g., eulachon grease), assessing the nutritional and health status of community members, studying the accessibility of Nuxalk foods and the patterns of use of both tradition and market foods. Community wellness activities included nutrition promotion activities at schools and other community settings, food events with elder, adults and youth, feasts and meal events using local foods, fitness classes, demonstration gardens, and so on. One of the most popular was a handbook on traditional Nuxalk foods and a recipe book. All of these had positive effects but have not solved the problem of the high degree of food insecurity linked to resource collapse, decline in local availability of traditional foods, and suspicions of contamination of wild sources of food. The authors stress the importance of the NFNP initiatives and the need for sustained support. The article ended with case studies of a number of other initiatives from other areas of the province.

Lepofsky, D. & Lyons, N. (2013). The secret past life of plants: Paleoethnobotany in British Columbia, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 39-83.

Key Words: paleoethnobotany; First Nations foodways

#### Annotation

This is a fascinating account of paleoethnobotany or archaeobotany; “two roughly synonymous terms used to describe the study of past human relationships with the plant world” (p. 39). It focuses on research that has been conducted in British Columbia. After giving an overview of how paleoethnobotany research is conducted and the type of material found at several archeological sites the authors argue that paleoethnobotany can provide value insights into: ancient plant use; ancient social systems; human-plant interactions not identified from extant ethnobotanical knowledge and living communities; the social and economic role of women and children in the past; and issues of status, ownership, and control. Examples are included for each of these claims and the case is made for expanding this relatively new sub-discipline of archaeological inquiry and

analysis.

Matson, R. G. (1980-81). Prehistoric subsistence patterns in the Fraser Delta: The evidence from the Glenrose Cannery site. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (48), 64-85.

Key Words: archeology, First Nations' history and culture, subsistence foods

#### Annotation

Findings of interest to researchers of Northwest Coast culture are presented from an excavation in Glenrose Straight, Fraser River, British Columbia. Faunal analysis of three culture periods (Old Cordilleran 9000-4500 BP; St. Mungo 5500-3000 BP; Marpole 2400-1500 BP) suggests that substance patterns were developed *in situ* without outside influences. This research indicates that the relationship between subsistence patterns and the unique socio-cultural aspects of the Northwest Coast, should be topic for further research. Detailed description of the faunal evidence - animals and birds, fish, and shellfish - is included.

McMillan, A. D. & St. Claire, D. E. (1975). Archaeological investigations in the Alberni Valley, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (25), 32-76.

Key Words: archeology, First Nations' history, tools and implements, subsistence activities

#### Annotation

This is a very detailed account of an archeological excavation of a single site located in Shoemaker Bay, a small body of salt water in the Somas River delta at the head of Alberni Inlet. This location shows evidence of the interaction of two Nootka speaking cultures: the Sheshaht and the Opetchesaht. The artifacts documented include: chipped stone artifacts (e.g. points and knives); ground stone artifacts (e.g., points, knives, sandstone saws, celts); pecked and ground stone artifacts (e.g., hammerstones); bone artifacts (e.g., barbed and unbarbed points); antler artifacts (e.g., barbed harpoons); and artifacts of other materials (e.g., dentalium shell bead, animal teeth). There are illustrations to accompany the artifact descriptions. A discussion of the faunal remains gives an indication of the common food sources (land and sea mammals, fish, birds, shellfish). Radiocarbon dating indicates a span of occupancy of the site from as early as the second millennium B.C. until at least the sixth century A.D.

Schreiber, D. & Newell, D. (2006). Negotiating TEK in BC salmon farming: Learning from each other or managing tradition and eliminating contention? *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (150), 79-102.

Key Words: Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK); Salmon Farming; First Nations

#### Annotation

This commentary offers an excellent explanation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) clearly articulating that it is a far more complex concept than typically presented and this affects the way it is used by major resource industries, in this case fish farming. A simplistic version of TEK holds that it refers to a cumulative body of indigenous knowledge. These authors argue that it is much broader and is embedded in First Nations cultural values and systems of governance, intimately connected to ecological relationships within their territory and historically deep and future oriented. What you have is two different discourses. When fish farming becomes an issue the corporations appropriate knowledge (simplistic view of TEK) to their own ends to neutralize contention. TEK then becomes bits of knowledge stripped of all political and historical content to be used/misused in the interest of their dominant managerial interests. In particular, here in BC where there are few treaties and territories have not been ceded, the simplistic view of TEK does not question land rights or power structures and its use becomes just colonialism in disguise.

Turner, N.J., Deur, D. & Lepofsky, D. (2013). Plant management systems of British Columbia's First Peoples, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (179), 107-133.

Key Words: First Nations; food sources; plant management

#### Annotation

This article challenges the traditional hunter-gatherer representations of First Nation's people who lived in British Columbia. The authors state that "in the case of plants, Indigenous peoples have been active participants in sustained plant resource production systems, influencing, through diverse and intentional methods, the quality and quantities of the foods and materials on which they have traditionally relied" (p. 107) and then proceed through a number of examples to support this claim. They categorize various management strategies as: ecological (e.g., burning, transplanting, pruning); social (e.g., ownership/proprietorship, trade, feasting); technological (e.g., increasing access, improved tools); or integrated (e.g. combining strategies). The strategies are presented in a detailed table (pp. 111- 113) with references specifically to evidence of these practices in British Columbia. The last half of the article includes several case studies on the topics of tree management, estuarian root gardens, and orchard gardens. Each is accompanied with images and diagrams. This is valuable contribution to recording an aspect traditional ecological knowledge that has been given relatively little attention.

Stryd, A. H. (1972). Housepit archaeology at Lillooet, British Columbia : The 1970 field season, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (14), 17 – 46.

Key Words: archeology, First Nations' history, material culture, tools and implements

#### Annotation

A very detailed report on archeological research conducted along a 29 km section of the

Fraser River between Lillooet and Pavilion Creek known to have been inhabited by the Interior Salish-speaking Lillooet and Shuswap. Five habitation sites were examined for evidence of historic and prehistoric components. The evidence presents a rich description of material culture related to the cultures of the later Upper Middle Period and Late Period, *ca.* 1000 B.C.-1800 A.D. Of particular interest to food researchers is the detailed descriptions and images of tools found, what cache-pits reveal about the floral and fauna and animals consumed, and hearth construction.

## **Fish and Fisheries**

Ainsworth, C. (2015/2016). British Columbia marine fisheries catch reconstruction, 1873 to 2011. *The British Columbia Quarterly*, (188), 81-89.

Key Words: fishery catches

### **Annotation**

This research note shares the process of trying to account for unreported data related to marine fisheries catches. Typical accounts, for example, official government statistics, leave a large portion of the catch unaccounted. Synthesizing existing literature into a catch that accounts for non-industrial landings and industrial discards, a database is presented with accompanying bar graphs that compare unreported landings with reported catches to provide a more robust picture of the total marine fishery catches. Done over time from 1873 to 2011, this reconstruction provides baseline data to assist with ecological modeling and determine extraction levels will ensure a health marine ecosystem.

Hayward, B. (1981). The B.C. salmon fishery: A consideration of the effects of licensing. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (50), 39-51.

Key Words: salmon, commercial fishing, licensing

### **Annotation**

In setting the context for a discussion of the effects of licensing, the author begins with a historical overview of the industry explaining the factors that gave rise to fisheries becoming a staple resource industry (e.g., establishment of canneries, access to cheap reliable gas engines). Each of the varieties of salmon are described and the related fishing gear and techniques elaborated. Licensing was initiated to establish biological control on salmon harvests and also to ensure economic viability and stability of the industry. This article focuses on a most contentious licensing that was enacted in BC in 1968. It explains the impact of licensing in great detail and concludes that “In terms of the history of Canada's regulation of the exploitation of natural resources, the management of the salmon resource could at best be described as awkward, at worst incompetent” (p. 49) suggesting that a resource allocation quota system would be more effective.

Marchak, M. P. (1988-89). What happens when common property becomes uncommon? *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (80), 3-23.

Key Words: fisheries, common property, free goods

#### Annotation

The author argues for conceptual clarity in using the term “common property” to describe the fish in BC waters. Frequently the discourse of fish as common property is used in research and policy making related to the fishing industry. Marchak contends that this use of the term is “logically flawed and factually false”. She elaborates her argument by tracing the etymology of the term and its use in economic theory where the commons or common property was co-managed by the users pointing out that management by the state is not co-management as the state is answerable to the stakeholders (businesses where profits and competition not cooperation rule) and therefore cannot manage the resources as if they are the commons. Comparing fish to forests, she also makes the distinction between mobile (fish) and immobile (trees) resources questioning whether mobile resources can be considered common property.

Millerd, F.W. (1988). Windjammers to eighteen wheelers: The impact of changes in transportation technology on the development of British Columbia's fishing industry, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (78), 28-52.

Key Words: fishing, exports, transportation technology, salmon, halibut, herring and pilchards

#### Annotation

Windjammers are sailing ships and eighteen wheelers are transport trucks but this article covers all the technological advances in-between that have affected getting fish caught in BC waters to both local and export markets. In particular, a historical perspective on the commercial development of four fisheries are covered in detail: salmon, halibut, herring and pilchard. While each fishery has evolved in a different manner each has been influenced by technological advances in fishing crafts (e.g., diesel engines, electric lights, fish packers), processing plants (e.g., canneries, refrigeration), and shipping routes (e.g., transcontinental railroads and highways). Despite improved transportation, technology, mechanization and communication, the author acknowledges that there are other factors as well that have influenced the stability/instability of the industry.

Pechlaner, G. & Rutherford, M. B. (2006). Common future, different policy paths? Managing the escape of farmed Atlantic salmon in British Columbia and Washington state, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (150), 77.

Key Words: farmed salmon

#### Annotation

One of the major risks associated with salmon farming in coastal waters is escapement of Atlantic salmon into the Pacific ecosystem. Since British Columbia and Washington state share these waters the possibility of coordinating salmon escape policies exists. This

paper compares the policies of the two jurisdictions from 1970 to 2003. Significant events in salmon aquaculture policy in BC and Washington state (presented in a timeline in an appendix) are examined for points of convergence and divergence. Significant differences in research and monitoring were noted whereas there was greater similarity in compliance and enforcement although for different reasons. The authors conclude that “Both Washington and British Columbia have, in effect, needed to go back to the drawing board to establish clearer conditions of aqua culture licensing. While British Columbia chose to focus on process, specifying the particulars of escape prevention measures, Washington, focusing on the end product, has been developing clearer definitions of what constitutes a violation” (p. 69). They go on to outline three developments that could have a major effect on existing and future policy dynamics: changes in governments; demand for greater seafood production; and the marking of farmed salmon.

Rajala, R. (2012/13). “Streams being ruined from a salmon producing standpoint”: Clearcutting, fish habitat, forest regulation in British Columbia, 1900-1945. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (176), 94-132.

Key Words: fisheries; forestry

#### Annotation

The very detailed article, complete with images describes the going conflict between forestry and fisheries in the province of British Columbia and gives an insight into why so little progress has been made in overcoming obstacles to protection of riparian zones in rivers and streams. It particularly highlights the formative period of both industries from the early 1900s to World War II demonstrating how since that time forestry has always taken priority over fish.

Silver, J. (2014). Shellfish and coastal change: Pacific oysters and Manila clams in BC waters, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (181), 83-103.

Key Words: shellfish farming

#### Annotation

Pacific oysters and Manila clams are non-native species that were introduced in intertidal waters of BC in the early 1900s. Although harvesting and processing intertidal shellfish from the coastal waters has existed for centuries, it wasn't until the 1970s that the BC government made almost four thousand hectares of intertidal and nearshore space available in the form of private marine tenures for shellfish aquaculture that shellfish farming really intensified. Traditionally, commercial shellfish production has a minimal known effect on other coastal marine resources. The fact that it requires clean water, doesn't use introduced food or chemicals and produces little waste makes it appear environmentally sound. However, in the view of this author this politically neutral view of the industry is misleading. For example, with the introduction of marine tenures, some oyster production adopted submerged techniques freeing up intertidal space for Manila clam production but Manila clam production is akin to mono-cropping as the intertidal

terrain is cleared of all biodiversity resulting in greater production per hectare and greater profit. Thus the industry is not as neutral as it appears. The author recommends more research that uses an assemblages approach to fill in the gaps left in typical research, to challenge assertions that shellfish farming is a culturally and environmentally ideal use of intertidal and nearshore ocean space in British Columbia.

Tollefson, C. & Scott, R. (2006). Charting a course: Shellfish aquaculture and Indigenous rights in New Zealand and British Columbia, *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (150), 3-41.

Key Words: aquaculture, commercial shellfish production, First Nations' rights

#### Annotation

This article presents extensive research into the state of shellfish aquaculture in BC and in New Zealand suggesting that there is potential for this to become a major industry in BC and that possibility could be informed by the way the industry was developed in New Zealand. The paper is presented in four parts: part 1 is an overview of the current state and prospects of shellfish aquaculture in the two jurisdictions tracing the growth of the industry from its early successes to current challenges and opportunities it now confronts; part 2 focuses on New Zealand and the conditions that led to unprecedented growth in the industry there; part 3 compares laws and policies related to shellfish aquaculture regulation and the accommodation of indigenous rights and interests in BC and New Zealand; part 4 discusses the main legal and political impediments to developing the economic potential of shellfish aquaculture in British Columbia.

Vance, M. E. (2008). "Mon – he's a gran' fish": Scots in British Columbia's interwar fishing industry. *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (158), 33-61.

Key Words: trade unions; Scottish influence on the BC fishing industry

#### Annotation

To set the context of this article the author introduces the Anglo-British Packing Company (ABCCo) and discusses how using the "Wee Scottie" brand on canned salmon donated for the war effort established an association of the brand and patriotism that the company wanted to promote after the war. It is an example of the influence of Scottish capitalists in the fishing industry in the province. There is considerable information on the fishing industry in the province noting the ethnic origins of fishers and cannery workers and a map shows how many of the canneries in the interwar years had Scottish names. Then the main focus of the article shifts to a relatively overlooked aspect of Scottish emigration to BC, their involvement in unionizing the fishing industry. "This movement was led by the Fishermen's Industrial Union (FIU), which was formed by the Communist Party of Canada (CPC) under the Workers Unity League (WUL) with the goal of organizing all of the industry's fishers and shoreworkers into one union" (p. 46). While Scots were not the dominant group in the fishing fleet, they were heavily represented among the fishers who were seeking to unionize the industry (an Appendix lists Scottish born union members identified in *The Fisherman*). The author claims the

influence of Scots in trade unionism “helped shape the character of British Columbia industrial relations throughout the remainder of the twentieth century” (p. 61 ) and has had much more significance than the Scottish capitalists whose influence eventually waned.

Wade, J. (1982). The "gigantic scheme": Crofter immigration and deep-sea fisheries development for British Columbia (1887-1893), *BC Studies: The British Columbia Quarterly*, (53), 28-44.

Key Words: state-assisted emigration; state interference in economic development; fisheries

#### Annotation

The “gigantic scheme” referred to in the title is just that. A scheme that never came to fruition concocted by the British government and Alexander Begg the “crofter commissioner” for B.C. to bring poor Scottish crofter families to Vancouver Island to simulate deep-sea fisheries in the area. The author uses this controversial plan to examine the socio/political/economic factors that gave rise to this particular proposal for state-assisted emigration (e.g., the demise of the Crofter’s way of life; humanitarian responses; economic and political gain). In this case the factors include: who was going to finance this proposal – the British government, the BC government, the Crofters – and the terms of repayment, gave rise to the second half of the scheme. Begg proposed the formation of a commercial company to develop the deep-sea fisheries off coastal British Columbia and to provide employment for the fishermen crofters. The colonizing and commercial schemes, if implemented would have represented extensive intrusion by the British Columbia government into the social and economic sectors. The colonization would have required assuming financial responsibility for the immigration and settlements. The commercial scheme would have involved incentives to the industry of land grants and tax concessions. In examining the arguments both for and against such a scheme, the author demonstrates the conflicting viewpoints of the times in British Columbia particularly those related to state-assisted emigration and state interference in economic development.