

# VALLEY HERITAGE

A bibliography of  
Bulkley Valley history  
compiled in celebration of  
Smithers' 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
by

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August 2013

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## INTRODUCTION

*The history of the world is the record of a man in quest of his daily bread and butter.* H.W. Van Loon, *The Story of Mankind*.

From the earliest hunters and gatherers to the highly mechanized farmers and foresters of today, the Bulkley Valley has always proven itself a generous provider. Not generous enough to produce a Vancouver, Calgary or Edmonton, as was predicted in some of Smithers' early promotional literature, but the valley, aided initially by the railroad, has always supported viable endeavours in agriculture, tourism, forestry, mining and commerce.

This diverse economy, augmented by the valley's scenic and accessible mountain ranges, clean rivers, and vibrant cultural community, serves as the basis for many stories ... stories contained in books, brochures, pamphlets and on websites. As part of the ceremonies and events marking the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Smithers in 2013, we have started the process of gathering this material into a bibliography covering the history of the valley from Houston to Hazelton and east to Babine Lake.

From the first days of Temleham to the Delgamuukw decision, from paddlewheelers arriving in Hazelton and the completion of the Grand Trunk Pacific to the arrival of the first commercial passenger jet at Smithers' airport, this bibliography will guide you to a deeper understanding of the valley's place in BC history and the people who got us there. For the ease of researchers looking for specific material, we have divided the list into First Nations and Euro-Canadian.

There are now more than 100 entries in the list but it is not complete – will probably never be complete – as the history of our community is not static. As such we encourage you to help us. Is there a book, paper or website we missed? If so please contact the Smithers Public Library (contact@smitherslibrary.ca).

Most of the publications are available at the library, and the list will be posted on the library's website, with updates. All proceeds from the sale of this bibliography will go to the library.

Happy anniversary Smithers!

## First Nations

*Aboriginal Title in British Columbia: Delgamuukw vs The Queen* (Ed. Cassidy – Institute for Research on Public Policy).

*The Ancient Education of a Carrier Indian* (Jeness, Diamond – Department of Mines & The National Museum of Canada 1929).

*Canyon Creek: A Script* (Peters, Sheila – Creekstone Press) – The story of the eviction of a Wet'suwet'en family from land they owned and farmed for many years on Canyon Creek near Smithers.

*Carrier Indians of the Bulkley River: Their Social & Religious Life* (Jeness, Diamond – Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletin 133, 1943).

*Cis Dideen Kat: When the Plumes Rise: The Way of the Lake Babine Nation* (Jo-Anne Fiske and Betty Patrick – UBC Press).

*Colonialism on Trial* (Monet & Wilson – New Society) – Indigenous land rights and the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en sovereignty.

*Contact & Conflict: Indian-European Relations in British Columbia 1774 - 1890* (Fisher – UBC Press).

*A Death Feast in Dimlahamid* (Glavin – New Star) – A mix of modern and ancient history that provides insight into the lifestyles, social values, family ties and historic pride of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en people of northwest BC.

*Delgamuukw vs The Attorney General*, Reasons for Judgement (Supreme Court of BC).

*The Downfall of Temleham* (Marius Barbeau – Hurtig Publishers) – Life among the Gitksan in the Upper Skeena region of BC during the late 1800s as Euro-

Canadian commerce and settlement changed centuries-old cultural patterns.

*Eagle Down Is Our Law* (Mills, Antonia – UBC Press) –  
Wet’suwet’en law, feasts and land claims.

*The Early Economic History of the Gitksan-Wet’suwet’en-  
Babine Tribal Territories, 1822 -1915* (Ray, Arthur J. –  
Gitksan-Wet’suwet’en Tribal Council, 1985).

*From Mountain to Mountain* (Cassidy) – A history of the  
Gitksan Village of Ans’pa yaxw (Kispiox).

*Gathering What Great Nature Provided* (People of ‘Ksan) –  
Food traditions of the Gitksan.

*Gitksan-Wet’suwet’en History 1850 - 1900 Vols. 1 and 2*  
(Galois, Bob – Gitksan-Wet’suwet’en Tribal Council) –  
Prepared for the Delgamuukw court case.

*Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 6, Subarctic*  
(Smithsonian) – Carrier, pp. 413-432.

*Hang Onto These Words* (Mills, Antonia – University of  
Toronto Press) – Johnny David’s Delgamuukw evidence  
in support of his people’s territorial rights.

*Histories, Territories and Laws of the Kitwancool* (Duff,  
Wilson – British Columbia Provincial Museum).

*The History of the Northern Interior of British Columbia* (Fr.  
Adrien-Gabriel Morice – Interior Stationery 1970 Ltd.) –  
An account of Father Morice’s 25 years as a missionary  
working with First Nations in northern British Columbia  
during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

*Indian and Non-Native Use of the Babine River 1987*  
(O’Donnell – Fisheries & Oceans).

*Indian and Non-Native Use of the Bulkley River 1987*  
(O’Donnell – Fisheries & Oceans).

*Indian and Non-Native Use of the Kispiox River 1987*  
(O’Donnell – Fisheries & Oceans).

- Indian History of British Columbia: The Impact of the White Man*** (Duff – Royal British Columbia Museum, 1997 ed.) – Classic study of interaction between First Nations and colonial cultures.
- 'Ksan: First Annual Collection*** (Ellis – Children of the Raven Publishing, 1978) – Original graphics.
- More Stories of the Moricetown Carrier Indians of Northwestern BC*** (Alfred, Mitchell, Michell).
- Mountain Goats of Temleham*** (Cleaver – Oxford) – A children's book recounting a Gitksan legend.
- Native Bridges*** (Mendel, Gisela) – History and construction techniques for some of northwest BC's earliest bridges.
- Niwhts'ide'nī Hibi'it'ën: The Ways of Our Ancestors – Witsuwit'ën History & Culture Throughout the Millennia*** (Morin, Melanie – School District 54).
- Our Box Was Full*** (Daly – UBC Press) – Insight into the Delgamuukw case which sheds much-needed light on the role of anthropology in Aboriginal rights litigation.
- Proud Past*** (Cassidy) – A history of the Wet'suwet'ën of Moricetown.
- Reaching Just Settlements: Land Claims in BC*** (Cassidy – Oolichan Books) – A collection of papers representing the views of native, business, labor, municipal and academic leaders in British Columbia on the need for and possible shape of just land claim settlements in the province.
- Run Indian, Run*** (Kelley – Paperjacks) – The Story of Simon Gunanoot.
- Shoot Out At New Hazelton*** (Pioneer Days in British Columbia, Vol. 3) – A 1914 bank robbery attempt in New Hazelton leaves six bandits captured or dead.

- A Small and Charming World* (Gibson, John Frederick – Creekstone Press) – A social worker's experience among the First Nations of the Bulkley and Skeena river basins.
- The Spirit in the Land* (Gisdaywa and Delgamuukw – Reflections) – The opening statement of the Gitksan and Wet'suwet'en hereditary chiefs in the Supreme Court of British Columbia, May 11, 1987.
- Stories of the Moricetown Carrier Indians of Northwestern BC* (Naziel).
- The Gitksan Potlach* (Adams – Holt, Rinehart and Winston) – Population flux, resource ownership and reciprocity.
- Totem Poles of the Gitksan, Upper Skeena River, British Columbia* (Barbeau, Marius – Univ. of Michigan).
- Trapline Outlaw* (Williams – Sono Nis) – The story of Simon Peter Gunanoot who eluded capture for 13 years in the northern BC wilderness after being charged with murder.
- Visitors Who Never Left* (Kenneth B. Harris – UBC Press) – The legends of the people of Temleham.
- We-Gyet Wanders On* (Kitanmax School of the Northwest Coast Art) – Legends of the Northwest.
- Will To Power: The Missionary Career of Father Morice* (Mulhall – UBC Press).

## Euro-Canadian

- 40 Years on the Yukon Telegraph* (Lawrence – Carryall Books Ltd., Quesnel) – People and places along the 1900 miles of the Yukon telegraph line.
- Before Roads and Rails* (McHarg & Cassidy) – Pack trails and packing in the upper Skeena area.

- Broken Arrow – America’s First Lost Nuclear Weapon***  
(Leach – Red Deer Press) – An account of the first loss of an American nuclear weapon which occurred close to Smithers, and its continued controversy and secrecy.
- Broken Arrow #1: The World’s First Lost Atomic Bomb***  
(Clearwater, John – Hancock House).
- Bulkley Valley School Days*** (Herman, Della) – The schools, teachers and administrators of the Bulkley Valley from 1915 to 1980.
- Bulkley Valley Stories*** (BV Heritage Club) – An anthology of pioneer tales from the Bulkley Valley.
- Cataline: Packer Extraordinaire*** (Morrow, Trelle – Talisman Publications) – The story of Jean Caux, perhaps the best known pack train operator of pioneer BC.
- Chasing Their Dreams*** (Chow – Harbour Publishing) – Chinese settlement in northwest BC.
- Chronicles of Smithers: Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*** (Genealogical Society of Smithers – 2013) – Memories of Smithers from 1913 to the present.
- Collins Overland Telegraph*** (Fitzgerald – History of the Canadian West) – A 40-page account of the building of the Collins Overland Telegraph through northwest BC.
- Disconnected recollections*** (Capling – Delta Printing) – Capling family history & anecdotes from 1920s to 2000.
- Driftwood Canyon Provincial Park*** (Parkin, Tom) – An interpretive assessment of the Driftwood Canyon fossil beds park.
- Early Days on the Skeena River*** (McHarg & Cassidy).
- Elder College: Life Writing 2007*** (Collected stories from the Bulkley Valley).
- Experimental Farm Progress Reports – 1938 to 1960***  
(Department of Agriculture, Canada).

- Faithful Through All Generations* (Smithers Christian Reformed Church).
- Far Land* (Maclean – Caitlin Press) – Autobiography by Eva Maclean who lived in Hazelton in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- From Gophers to Grizzlies* (Adams, Jack) – Memoirs from Jack Adams of Adams Igloo wildlife museum, Smithers.
- Gold Dust On His Shirt* (Howard – Between the Lines) – An evocative telling of the experience of a Scandinavian immigrant family of hard-rock miners at the turn of the century and up to World War II.
- Graeme’s Way* (Johnstone, Graeme) – Autobiography of BV District Agriculturist Graeme Johnstone.
- The Federal Riding of Skeena: A History* – A list of MPs from 1867 (Shaver, Research Branch, Library of Parliament).
- Hard Work, Ingenuity and Fun* (Shortreid, Fred) – Memoirs from former Smithers Mayor Fred Shortreid.
- A History of the Babine Mountains Recreation Area* (L’Orsa, Joe) – 1866 to 1990 chronology including the lead-up to today’s Babine Mountains (Class A) Provincial Provincial Park.
- History of the Experimental Farm* (Hofsink & VanVeen).
- History of the Union Bank of Canada and the Royal Bank of Canada* (Steele) – Bank stories from Houston, Telkwa, Smithers and the Hazeltons.
- I Slept in a Courthouse* (Havard, Dave) – The day-to-day life of a BC land inspector in the Bulkley Valley after the Second World War.
- In The Land of the Red Goat* (Henderson, Bob – Creekstone Press) – Guide Bob Henderson tells stories from his 40 years as a guide in northwest BC.



- Kate's Selection*** (Smallwood & Hobson – BV Historical and Museum Society) – Stories of the people and places of northwest BC.
- Land Capability Analysis: Bulkley Valley*** (Canada Land Inventory).
- A Late Summer*** (Cartwright – Caravel Press) – The memoirs of an engineer. One chapter includes his explorations in the Bulkley Valley in 1907.
- Life in the Bulkley Valley*** (Dahlie, Halvard) – One man's account of life in the Bulkley Valley in the 1930s.
- Lost Nuke: The Last Flight of Bomber 075*** (Septer – Heritage House) – A US bomber crashes north of Hazelton.
- The Making of a Great Canadian Railway*** (Talbot, F.A. – Seeley Service & Co. 1912) – The making of the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway).
- Marks of a Century: A History of Houston, BC, 1900 – 2000*** (Hols – District of Houston).
- Marks on the Forest Floor*** (Houston Centennial 71 Committee) – A story of Houston.
- Martin: The Story of a Young Fur Trader*** (Orchard – BC Provincial Museum, Sound Heritage) – Martin Starret tells of his adventures in the Babine/Hazelton area in the early 1900s.
- Memoirs of a Young Immigrant*** (Dahlie, Halvard, Peak Printing).
- Memories of the Skeena*** (Wicks – Hancock House) – Life on the Skeena River 1900 – 1922.
- New Garden of Canada: By Packhorse and Canoe Through New British Columbia*** (Talbot, F.A. – Cassell 1911).
- Ninety Years On*** (Coulson, Mel) – A history of the Anglican Church in the Bulkley Valley.

***Northern BC in Retrospect*** (Audrey Smedley-L'Heureux, 1979)  
– A collection of stories and short biographies from the history of northwest BC. Featured are Skook Davidson and Wiggs O'Neill.

***Olaf "Tie" Hanson*** (Shervill, R. Lynn – Whistle Punk Vol.1, No. 4, 1986) – A biography of Smithers resident and Skeena MP (1930 – 1945) Olaf Hanson.

***One Hand on the Ladder*** (Hromatka, Walter) – From the high Arctic to the Pacific Ocean and finally to Smithers in British Columbia, this story encapsulates the unique adventures of pioneering in aviation communications.

***Our Pioneer Women*** (Telkwa Museum Archives).

***Our Pioneers: The Bulkley Valley*** (Saywell, John T.) – An account of Bulkley Valley settlement from pre-contact days to the 1950s.

***Our Trail Led Northwest*** (Mandy) – Early travels from Haida Gwaii to Smithers, including meetings with Bulkley Valley pioneers Peavine Harvey and Ben Nelson.

***Pioneer Days in British Columbia, Vol. 1*** (Downs, ed. – BC Outdoors) – Includes articles titled Pioneer Days in Hazelton, Aldermere, Cataline and Mountain Mystery (Houston area).

***Pioneer Days in British Columbia, Vol. 4*** (Downs, ed. –BC Outdoors) – Includes article on Sergeant Sperry Cline, frontier policeman.

***Pioneer Women of the Bulkley Valley*** (Bulkley Valley Museum).

***Pioneers: A Two-Mile School Project*** (School District 88) – Pioneers of the Hazelton area.

***Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology, Smithers-Terrace-Prince Rupert Area, BC*** (Clague – Geological Survey of Canada, 1984).

***A Railroader's Wife*** (Stevenson, Jane – Caitlin Press) – Letters written by the wife of a railway bookkeeper depicting life along the Grand Trunk Pacific train line during its construction in the early 1900s.

***Records of the Smithers Cemetery*** (BV Genealogical Society) – Up to November 1995.

***A Reflection of Tears*** (Laird) – A fictional account of life in the Kispiox Valley published in 1971.

***Remember When*** (Weedmark, Lillian) – Former Smithers museum curator Lillian Weedmark tells stories from the Bulkley Valley.

***Rubber Boots For Dancing*** (Bourgon, Nan) – Memories of pioneer life in the Bulkley Valley.

***Rural Education in the Bulkley Valley*** (Shepherd).

***Seventy-Nine years in British Columbia*** (Dockrill) – Farmer and prospector Frank Dockrill shares his experiences of the Telkwa/Aldermere area in the early 1900s. Later published as *A Telkwa Pioneer's Story*.

***Sights of Smithers – Stirring The Soil*** (Coulsen, Mel) – Creation and maintenance of the gardens behind the old St. James Church in Smithers.

***Skeena: A River Remembered*** (Skogan, Joan – BC Packers Ltd. 1983).

***Skeena: River of Destiny*** (Large – Gray's Publishing) – From the Bulkley Valley to Prince Rupert, Dr. R.G. Large recounts the history of the Skeena watershed.

***"Skypilot" Stephenson: in his own write*** (Coulson, ed.) – A biographical sketch based on Rev. F.L. Stephenson's own writings on occasion of 100th Anniversary of St. Stephen's Church, Telkwa.

***Smithers United Church 1953 - 2003.***

- Smithers: A Railroad Town*** (Kruisselbrink, Harry – BV Historical and Museum Society) – The role of the railroad in the creation and growth of the Town of Smithers.
- Smithers: From Swamp to Village*** (Shervill, R. Lynn – Town of Smithers, 1981) – A history of Smithers from its creation to the 1950s.
- Smithers: Grand Trunk Pacific Freight and Passenger Division Headquarters*** (BV Historical and Museum Society) – Reprint of an early GTP promotional brochure extolling the growth potential of Smithers.
- Spatsizi*** (Walker, Tommy – Interior Stationery 1970 Ltd.) – A history of the Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park by former Smithers resident Tommy Walker.
- Steamboat Days on the Skeena River*** (O'Neill) – A 20-year history of steam boats on the Skeena River in the late 1800s and early 1900s.
- Stories of Swiss Settlement in the Bulkley Valley 1910 - 1960*** (Bulkley Valley Swiss Club).
- The Telkwa River and Vicinity*** (Leach - Geological Survey of Canada) – A report to the Geological Survey of Canada on mining potential along the Telkwa River, 1907).
- They Call Me Lopey*** (Lopaschuk, Bill – Creekstone Press) – Autobiography of bush pilot Bill Lopaschuk who flew BC's north country for 60 years.
- A Thousand Blunders*** (Leonard, Frank – UBC Press) – The Grand Trunk Pacific rail line and northern British Columbia.
- A Trail of Two Telegraphs*** (Stevenson, Jane – Caitlin Press) – Historic tales of the Bulkley Valley and beyond.
- Trails to Timberline*** (Blix, Einar) – A trail guide (3 editions) to the mountains of northwest BC, including the Babine, Hudson Bay and Telkwa ranges.
- Village History of Telkwa*** (Telkwa Women's Institute, 1949).

***Water Walkers*** (Owen, Margaret) Stories from valley residents.

***Where the Rivers Meet*** (Glen) – A story of the settlement of the Bulkley Valley.

***Whitewater Men of the Skeena*** (O’Neill) – Personalities who made the steamboat era on the Skeena an interesting and colourful one.

***Wilderness Beginnings*** (Hertel-Falkenhagen – Caitlin Press) – Homesteading in the Smithers area just before the start of WW2.

***Wilf Watson’s Story*** (Watson) – A Smithers pioneer describes the early years in BC’s first village.

***Wires in the Wilderness*** (Miller – Heritage House) – The story of the Yukon Telegraph.

## WEBSITES

Mining History:

<http://www.empr.gov.bc.ca/Mining/Geoscience/PublicationsCatalogue/AnnualReports/Pages/AnnualReports.aspx>