# St. John the Baptist, Duncan

Prepared by Jesse Robertson (December 5, 2023)

## **Property Acquisition**

Address	486 Jubilee Street, Duncan, BC
Legal description	PID 008462569, LOT 1 BLOCK 1 SECTION 18 RANGE 6 QUAMICHAN DISTRICT PLAN 798; PID 008462593, LOT 2, BLOCK 1, SECTION 18, RANGE 6, QUAMICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 798; PID 006707424, LOT 14, BLOCK 17, SECTION 17, RANGE 6, QUAMICHAN DISTRICT, PLAN 2070
First private landholder	Section 17, Range 6: Crown Grant to William Chalmers Duncan in 1884.  Section 18, Range 6: Crown Grant to James Evans in 1884.
Diocesan Acquisition	Section 17, Range 6: Diocese purchases what would become Lot 14 of Block 17 in 1918.  Section 18, Range 6: Dioceses purchases Lots 1 and 2 of Block 1 in 1905.

#### Narrative Overview

St. John the Baptist is located in the City of Duncan in the territory of the Cowichan Tribes (Figure 1). Crown Grants to Sections 17 and 18, Range 6, Quamichan District were awarded to William Chalmers Duncan and James Evans, respectively, in 1884. These parcels were gradually subdivided and sold to different owners.

In 1905, the Diocese purchased Lots 1 and 2 of Block 1, Section 18, Range 6 from James Henry Whittome for \$375, upon trust that the parcel be used for church purposes.<sup>2</sup>

In 1918, the Diocese purchased Lot 1 of subdivision Lot 3 of Block 17, Section 17, Range 6 from Arthur Norman Parry for \$500 for use as a Sunday school site.<sup>3</sup> Part of this parcel was removed for road purposes sometime before 1962. The remainder was given its current legal description: Lot 14 of Block 17.<sup>4</sup>

# Interpretive Summary

Decisions regarding future land use should bear the following considerations in mind:

⇒ Crown Grants for Sections 17 and 18 were issued in 1884. These sections were subdivided and occupied by several individuals prior to Diocesan possession in the early 1900s. Prior owners significantly altered the landscape through logging, agricultural, railway, and residential development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Crown Grant Image G00132678001, Section 17, Range 6, Quamichan District; Crown Grant Image G00152826001, Section 18, Range 6, Quamichan District, Government Access tool for Online Retrieval (GATOR): <a href="https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gat

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Indenture, James Henry Whittome to Anglican Synod of the Diocese of BC (hereafter ASDBC), 19 Dec 1905, text 290, Registers of Conveyances of Land, Archives of the Diocese of BC (hereafter ADBC).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Copy of conveyance, Arthur Norman Parry to ASDBC, 28 May 1918, text 431, ADBC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Letter, Crease & Company to Lt. Colonel Fairfax-Webber (Lay Secretary, ASDC), 27 Jan 1962, text 63, ADBC.

Diocesan ownership of this land did not directly contribute to the historical dispossession of the Cowichan Tribes from their territories.

- ⇒ Anglican missionary Alexander Charles Garrett was among the first private landowners in the area, constructing a log chapel at Somenos Lake in 1862. Garrett played an ambivalent important role in the Cowichan Valley, communicating Cowichan grievances to the colonial government while also encouraging settlers to take up land in the area. The first wave of settlers, including Garrett, constricted Cowichan Tribes' access traditional territories.
- ⇒ The privatization of land has been a central factor limiting Indigenous access to traditional territories in BC. Cowichan Tribes' access to land has been severely constricted by settler incursion and an 1887 grant that transferred the majority of their territory to the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company. Today, private property is considered "off the table" for Aboriginal treaty negotiations, such as those currently being pursued by Cowichan Tribes. Arrangements and/or transfers from private landowners will likely be required for Cowichan Tribes to regain stewardship and/or ownership over a significant part of their traditional territories.

#### Historical Context

Colonial intrusion in the Cowichan Valley began in the 1850s as Governor James Douglas organized military expeditions to prosecute Cowichan men accused of attacking settlers. One of these took place in 1856 following what may have been a provoked attack on an English settler. Two naval vessels and over 400 men were despatched to Cowichan Valley to secure the accused, Tathlasut, who was court-martialled and hanged for attempted murder. The British force marched as far inland as Tathlasut's village, *So'mena* (Somenos), just south of present-day Duncan and the site of St. John the Baptist. Subsequent reports enthusiastically described Cowichan Valley's agricultural potential, thereby helping to spur settlement in the region.<sup>6</sup>

Oliver Wells was sent to survey Cowichan Valley in April and May 1859, dividing it into five land districts (including Quamichan District), and providing another positive report of the area's fertility. Meetings were held in 1862 in response to growing public demand for lands in Cowichan Valley. Among the speakers was Anglican missionary Alexander Charles Garrett. The priest had recently returned from a reconnaissance of Cowichan Valley, during which Cowichan people conveyed him to vantage points and reportedly indicated "the best lands and waters of their country." Upon returning to Victoria, Rev. Garrett assured prospective settlers that "no trouble would be experienced with the natives."

On August 18, 1862, one hundred settlers landed at Cowichan Bay under the protection of a Royal Navy vessel. These divided into three parties and proceeded to the districts of Somenos, Shawnigan,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> BC Treaty Commission, 'Land and Resources', n.d., https://www.bctreaty.ca/land-and-resources; 'Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group', BC Treaty Commission, accessed 28 November 2023, https://bctreaty.ca/hulquminum-treaty-group/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Chris Arnett, *The Terror of the Coast: Land Alienation and Colonial War on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, 1849-1863* (Burnaby, B.C: Talonbooks, 1999), 54–61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Oliver Wells, *Vancouver's Island. Survey of the Districts of Nanaimo and Cowichan Valley* (London: Groombridge and Sons, 1859), https://open.library.ubc.ca/viewer/bcbooks/1.0221851#p0z-5r0f:

<sup>8</sup> A.C. Garrett, "Reminiscences," page 21, E/B/G19, British Columbia Archives (hereafter BCA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 'Cowichan Settlers', British Colonist, 12 August 1862, 2,

https://archive.org/details/dailycolonist18620812uvic/page/n1/mode/2up.

and Quamichan. <sup>10</sup> Rev. Garrett soon procured their assistance in erecting a log chapel at Somenos Lake for ministry to the Cowichan and recent settlers. <sup>11</sup>

The arrival of a large group of settlers in Cowichan Valley marked a departure in previous colonial land policy in that treaties and land purchases were never formalized with the resident Cowichan. Rev. Garrett accompanied the expedition and recalled Governor Douglas's promise to return the following autumn to make suitable presents to the Cowichan for their lands. The promise was never fulfilled. Many settlers bring livestock to the region, which resulted in the destruction of Cowichan potato patches and harvesting sites. 4

In November 1866, a number of Hul'qumi'num chiefs traveled to Victoria to express their grievances. In the absence of the new Governor, Frederick Seymour, chiefs relayed their concerns to various Anglican leaders, including Bishop George Hills and Rev. Garrett. Comiaken Chief Soucahlelzup captured the concerns of his fellow Hul'qumi'num: "we wanted to ask him [Governor Seymour] not to allow the White man to take away our land. We wish the White Man not to be too near our homes [...] We wish to be paid for the lands taken by the white men: other tribes have had Indian claims allowed, why not we? The lands we occupy we do not wish to give up: for the rest, we wish to be paid. From times beyond memory my fathers have dwelt at Cowitchen—there they died, there they are buried. I also would be buried there; there I wish my sons, and my sons' sons to succeed me. We love our land and cannot give it up." <sup>15</sup>

As settlers encroached on their territories, the Cowichan would continue to insist on their right to lands within what they called "the Douglas lines," an area they understood the governor as reserving for their use on one of his visits to Cowichan. Oliver Wells appears to have demarcated Indian Reserves during his 1859 survey, but his work came to be regarded as inaccurate and based on second-hand accounts. A new, smaller Indian Reserve was surveyed in by Benjamin Pearse in 1867.

The details of reserve allocations are pertinent to Section 17, Range 6, Quamichan District. One of Wells' maps appears to indicate the location of Indian Reserves in the district (Figure 2). The map

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 'Cowichan Expedition', *British Colonist*, 22 August 1862, 3, https://archive.org/details/dailycolonist18620822uvic/page/n1/mode/2up?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Garrett, "Reminiscences," page 22, E/B/G19, BCA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Scholars have provided various arguments to explain the apparent change in policy, See John Lutz, 'The Rutters' Impasse and the End of Treaty Making on Vancouver Island', in *To Share, Not Surrender: Indigenous and Settler Visions of Treaty Making in the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia*, ed. Peter Cook et al. (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2021), 220–43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Garrett, "Reminiscences," page 21, E/B/G19, BCA; A.C. Garrett, 10 Mar 1865, quoted in G.M. Sproat, "Rough memorandum on Cowichan Reserve," Feb 1878, page 19, file 9756-1, vol. 3662, reel C-10116, RG10, Department of Indian Affairs, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, ON (hereafter LAC): <a href="http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2061716&lang=eng">http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2061716&lang=eng</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Kelly Black, 'An Archive of Settler Belonging: Local Feeling, Land, and the Forest Resource on Vancouver Island' (PhD dissertation, Ottawa, Carleton University, 2017), 89.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Sarah Noël Morales, 'Snuw'uyulh: Fostering an Understanding of the Hul'qumi'num Legal Tradition' (PhD dissertation, Victoria, BC, University of Victoria, 2014), 171.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Ibid,. page 8.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Brendan O'Donnell, 'Indian and Non-Native Use of the Cowichan and Koksilah Rivers: An Historical Perspective', Issue 8 of Policy and Program Planning, Native Affairs Division (Canada. Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 1988), 9, 15–17, https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/library-bibliotheque/112602.pdf.

suggests that section, where St. John the Baptist is partially situated, may have been considered for an Indian Reserve, though there is no indication that these boundaries were formalized or shared with the Cowichan. The section was not considered part of the reserve when it was resurveyed in 1867. That year, surveyor Benjamin Pearse discovered Wells had inaccurately marked the southern border of Section 17. The line was relocated four chains (80 metres) south at the expense of the Cowichan Reserve (Figure 3). Settlers soon moved their fences to Pearse's line, resulting in protest from the Cowichan who felt their land was being further encroached upon. Previous owners of Section 17, Range 6 were the beneficiaries of this adjustment.

Cowichan Tribes' access to land has also been drastically reduced by a major land grant awarded as for the construction of a railway on Vancouver Island. The Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company secured the contract in 1883, agreeing to lay 113 kilometres of line in exchange for \$750,000 and a twenty mile strip extending from Esquimalt to Seymour Narrows amounting to nearly 2,000,000 acres of land. The land grant was executed in 1887, following completion of the railway (Figure 4).<sup>20</sup>

The Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group (including Cowichan Tribes) has described the E&N land grant as the "Great Land Grab." Fences and locked gates soon appeared on privatized lands, restricting access to essential hunting, harvesting, and resources sites. Alongside existing pre-emption of their lands, the grant marked the start of a "gradual, unremitting decline in our economic, cultural and social well-being, in which we witnessed the loss of most of our land and resources."<sup>21</sup>

The E&N Railway also helped to establish what would become the City of Duncan. William Chalmers Duncan, the owner of Section 17, Range 6, agreed to subdivide his land for a railway station and townsite. Duncan Station was established in 1887, and eventually grew into a regional hub for Cowichan Valley's lumber and agriculture industries. <sup>22</sup> The parish of St. John the Baptist was established to serve the emerging community and consecrated in 1906. <sup>23</sup>

Today over 85% of Hul'qumi'num lands remain privatized (Figure 5), a lasting consequence of colonial settlement and the E&N land grant.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Sproat, "Rough memorandum on Cowichan Reserve," Feb 1878, pages 10-12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Kenneth Duncan, *History of Cowichan*, n.d., 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> The land grant excluded lands that had already been pre-empted or otherwise alienated from the Crown. Many lands that informally occupied prior to 1883 were also excluded after a drawn out legal process.Black, 'An Archive of Settler Belonging', 104–5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, 'The Great Land Grab in Hul'qumi'num Territory' (Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, 2007), 2, 8, http://www.hulquminum.bc.ca/pubs/HTGRailwayBookSpreads.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Alan F.J. Artibise and Ken Favrholdt, 'Duncan', in *The Canadian Encyclopedia* (Historica Canada, 2015 2009), https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/dunca.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Certificate of Consecration, 24 Jun 1906, text 63, ADBC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, 'The Great Land Grab', 21.

# Indigenous Presence and Land Use

Languages	Hul'qumi'num (Coast Salish)
Governance	Cowichan Tribes; Hul'qumi'num; Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group
Land use	No specific land use has been identified. The property is located just north of the historic Hul'qumi'num village of So'mena (Somenos), located on what is now Cowichan Indian Reserve 1. <sup>25</sup>
	An 1859 survey map describes the area as "Rich prairie land partly open and partly wooded with Maple, Oak and Alder" (Figure 2).
Archaeological data	No known archaeological sites recorded on property. <sup>26</sup>
Historic treaties	None.
Modern treaties	Cowichan Tribes is a member of the Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group in Stage 5 of the BC Treaty Process (Negotiation to Finalize a Treaty).

## **Associated Properties**

Somenos Lake: The earliest Anglican property in the area was located about 2 kilometres north of St. John the Baptist. In 1862, Rev. A.C. Garrett had established a mission school and chapel at Somenos Lake, just north of the village of So'mena, for use in his ministry to the Cowichan people and newly arrived settlers.<sup>27</sup> By one account, Rev. Garrett referred to the residence as "'Neem-ny-haacha,' Songheese [sic] for 'the little grave yard by the lake.' The priest received Crown Grants for the area by 1870, amounting to 347 acres of land in Somenos District (Figure 6). Some or all of the property appears to have been sold to Ashdown Green at an unknown date.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Not to be confused with land district of Somenos located north of Duncan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Archaeological potential modelling indicates a small area with high potential to contain a previously unidentified site. However, the Archaeology Branch has reviewed the area and concluded it is likely an anomaly and/or not representative of actual archaeological potential. Email, Erin Partridge (Archaeological Information Administrator, Archaeology Branch, Ministry of Forests) to Jesse Robertson, 8 Feb 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> In 1864, Garrett reported that five Indigenous people, possibly Cowichans, had killed horses and cattle belonging to him. Subsequent investigations suggested the attacks may have been motivated by the accused's Roman Catholic sympathies. Columbia Mission Society, *Fifth Annual Report of the Columbia Mission for the Year 1863* (London: Rivingtons, 1864), 56; William Swanton Thackray, 'Keeping the Peace on Vancouver Island: The Colonial Police and the Royal Navy, 1850-1866' (MA Thesis, Victoria, C, University of Victoria, 1977), 172.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Excerpt from the diary of Alfred Wellwyn Rogers, quoted in Nathan Paul Dougan and Robert I. Dougan, *Cowichan, My Valley* (Cobble Hill, BC: R.I. Dougan, 1973), 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Historic Crown Grants issued to Alexander C. Garrett, nos. 1018-1022, Somenos District, Government Access tool for Online Retrieval (GATOR): <a href="https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator/queryforms.menu">https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator/queryforms.menu</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Dougan and Dougan, *Cowichan, My Valley*, 230.

## **Timeline**

*Italicized* text indicates contextual information. **Bold** text indicates information specific to the property.

Date	Details
13 Jan 1849	HBC awarded ten-year charter for the "advancement of colonization" on the Colony of Vancouver Island. <sup>31</sup>
1856	Governor James Douglas mobilizes a gunboat and over 400 men to respond to the shooting of a settler by Tathlasut, a Cowichan man from the village of So'mena. Tathlasut is surrendered and hanged. <sup>32</sup>
12 Jan 1859	Diocese of British Columbia established amidst global expansion of British Empire and Church of England (38 new dioceses established between 1814-1859). The Letters Patent creating the Diocese give the Bishop power to hold property on behalf of the church. <sup>33</sup>
Apr-May 1859	Oliver Wells surveys Cowichan Valley, divides it into distinct land districts (including Quamichan District), and reports 45,000 acres of prime agricultural land. <sup>34</sup>
	A corresponding map describes the area now occupied by St. John the Baptist as "Rich prairie land partly open and partly wooded with Maple, Oak and Alder" (Figure 2).
c. 1862	Rev. Alexander Charles Garrett undertakes a reconnaissance of Cowichan Valley and reports favourably on its potential for settlement.
8 Aug 1862	Rev. Garrett speaks at a meeting of settlers wishing to settle in Cowichan Valley, assuring them there would be "no trouble" from Indigenous residents. <sup>35</sup>
18 Aug 1862	One hundred settlers land at Cowichan Bay under the protection of a naval ship and proceed to occupy land in the districts of Shawnigan, Somenos, and Quamichan. Rev. Garrett accompanies the expedition and constructs a log chapel at Somenos Lake. At 27
	Also among the settlers are William Duncan Chalmers and Evan James who, after a period away, will return to the valley to occupy the parcels of land on which St. John the Baptist now stands. <sup>38</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> 'The Colonization of Vancouver Island, 1849-1858', BC Studies, no. 96 (1992): 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Arnett, *The Terror of the Coast*, 54–61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> "Letters Patent of the Bishop of Columbia, 1859" (copy), 85.36, ADBC; G. Hollis Slate, 'New Light on Herbert Beaver', *British Columbia Historical Quarterly* 6, no. 1 (January 1942): 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Wells, Survey of the Districts of Nanaimo and Cowichan Valley, 13.

<sup>35 &#</sup>x27;Cowichan Settlers', 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> 'Cowichan Expedition', British Colonist, 22 August 1862, 3,

https://archive.org/details/dailycolonist18620822uvic/page/n1/mode/2up?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Garrett, "Reminiscences," page 21, E/B/G19, BCA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Elizabeth Norcross, *The Warm Land: A History of Cowichan* (Duncan, B.C: E.B. Norcross, 1959), 120.

10 Mar 1865	Rev. Garrett sends to the Surveyor General complaints of Cowichan people demanding compensation for occupied land, along with a petition from settlers asking for a treaty. <sup>39</sup>
31 Mar 1866	The united Colony of British Columbia (including Vancouver Island) removes Indigenous peoples' right to pre-empt land without the permission of the Governor. <sup>40</sup>
1866	Bishop purchases 98 acres on the border of the Cowichan Reserve, to be known as St. Peter's Glebe. 41
May 1867	Surveyor General Benjamin Pearse re-surveys Hul-qumi-num Indian Reserves, reducing them to 2705 acres. 42
	Pearse finds the south border of Section 17, Range 6 to inaccurately marked, relocating it four chains (80 metres) south at the expense of the Cowichan Reserve (Figure 3). Settlers soon move their fences to the new line, resulting in protest from the Cowichan who felt their land was being further encroached upon. <sup>43</sup>
14 Mar 1870	Rev. Garrett receives Crown Grants for 347 acres of land encompassing his mission school and chapel at the south end of Somenos Lake. <sup>44</sup>
Aug 1883	Federal government awards the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company a contract to construct a railway on Vancouver Island in return for \$750,000 and nearly 2,000,000 acres of Crown Land (Figure 4). <sup>45</sup>
25 Sep 1884	James Evans receives Crown Grant for Section 18, Range 6, and a portion of Section 19, Range 6, for \$160.46
29 Oct 1884	William Chalmers Duncan receives Crown Grant for Section 17, Range 6, Quamichan District for \$100.47
1886	W.C. Duncan agrees to subdivide and sell portions of Section 17, Range 6 to create a townsite and railway station, later to be called Duncan.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> A.C. Garrett, 10 Mar 1865, quoted in G.M. Sproat, "Rough memorandum on Cowichan Reserve," Feb 1878, page 19, file 9756-1, vol. 3662, reel C-10116, RG10, LAC: <a href="http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2061716&lang=eng">http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2061716&lang=eng</a>; Lutz, 'The Rutters' Impasse', 232.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Paul Tennant, *Aboriginal Peoples and Politics: The Indian Land Question in British Columbia, 1849-1989* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 1990), 41–42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Columbia Mission Society, *Ninth Annual Report of the Columbia Mission for the Year 1867* (London: Rivingtons, 1868), 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> O'Donnell, 'Indian and Non-Native Use of the Cowichan and Koksilah Rivers', 15–17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Duncan, *History of Cowichan*, 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Historic Crown Grants issued to Alexander C. Garrett, nos. 1018-1022, Somenos District, Government Access tool for Online Retrieval (GATOR): <a href="https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator/gator/gueryforms.menu">https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> The land grant excluded lands that had already been pre-empted or otherwise alienated from the Crown. Many lands that informally occupied prior to 1883 were also excluded after a drawn out legal process. Black, 'An Archive of Settler Belonging', 104–5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Crown Grant Image G00152826001, Section 18, Range 6, Quamichan District, Government Access tool for Online Retrieval (GATOR): https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator/gator/gators-menu

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Crown Grant Image G00132678001, Section 17, Range 6, Quamichan District, Government Access tool for Online Retrieval (GATOR): <a href="https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gator/queryforms.menu">https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/pls/gator/gat

	The west side of the track, where St. John the Baptist now stands, was remembered as having a thick stand of second-growth Douglas Fir around this time. <sup>48</sup>
27 Sep 1886	Regular passenger service begins on the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway. 49
1887	Grant lands are transferred to the E&N Railway Company following completion of the railway, effectively privatizing the vast majority of Hul'qumi'num territory. 50
6 Apr 1889	Anglican Synod of the Diocese of British Columbia incorporated by Act of Provincial Legislature and empowered to acquire, hold, and sell property.
1905	Canadian Pacific Railway purchases E&N Railway Company, including remaining 1,400,000 acres of land holdings. 51
Dec 1905	Diocese purchases Lots 1 and 2 of Block 1, Section 18, Range 6 from James Henry Whittome for \$375, upon trust that the parcel be used for church purposes. <sup>52</sup>
1906	Cowichan Chief Charles (Tsulpi'multw) travels to England with a delegation to lobby King Edward VII for redress for land occupied by settlers. <sup>53</sup>
1918	Diocese purchased Lot 1 of subdivision Lot 3 of Block 17, Section 17, Range 6 from Arthur Norman Parry for \$500 for use as a Sunday school site. <sup>54</sup>
c. 1962	Part of Lot 1 of subdivision Lot 3 of Block 17, Section 17, Range 6, removed for road purposes sometime before 1962, and the remainder given a new legal description: Lot 14 of Block 17. 55

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Norcross, *The Warm Land*, 48.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Norcross, 48.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Black, 'An Archive of Settler Belonging', 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, 'The Great Land Grab', 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Indenture, James Henry Whittome to ASDBC, 19 Dec 1905, text 290, Registers of Conveyances of Land, ADBC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Morales, 'Snuw'uyulh: Fostering an Understanding of the Hul'qumi'num Legal Tradition', 183.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Copy of conveyance, Arthur Norman Parry to ASDBC, 28 May 1918, text 431, ADBC.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Letter, Crease & Company to Lt. Colonel Fairfax-Webber (Lay Secretary, ASDC), 27 Jan 1962, file 17, box 8, text 63, ADBC.

## Figures

**Figure 1.** Map showing current extent of St. John the Baptist. The property straddles Sections 17 and 18, Quamichan District.

PMBC Parcel Cadastres 008462569, 008462593, 006707424, iMapBC, Province of British Columbia.

**Figure 2.** Survey of Quamichan District (1859). The red squares appear to indicate Indian Reserves surrounding the Hul'qumi'num villages of Somenos (So'mena), Kokesailah, and Quamichan. Section 17, Range 6 is indicated within one of these red lines. There is no evidence these borders were registered or shared with the Cowichan. The map describes the area where the church is located as "Rich prairie land partly open and partly wooded with Maple, Oak and Alder."

"Quamichan District," 1859, Land Title and Survey Authority of BC Maps, University of Victoria Libraries: <a href="https://vault.library.uvic.ca/concern/generic\_works/49a0404d-4297-4a4e-969b-48aeed7f8a4e">https://vault.library.uvic.ca/concern/generic\_works/49a0404d-4297-4a4e-969b-48aeed7f8a4e</a>

**Figure 3.** Map showing Cowichan Indian Reserve 1 (1867). The map marks the location of old survey posts immediately above Section 16, Range 6, which were incorrectly placed by Oliver Wells in 1859.

"Cowichan District, Indian Reserve" (1867), Land Title and Survey Authority of BC Maps, University of Victoria Libraries: <a href="https://vault.library.uvic.ca/concern/generic\_works/86569c48-bb67-483f-8bf9-288b303ef6df">https://vault.library.uvic.ca/concern/generic\_works/86569c48-bb67-483f-8bf9-288b303ef6df</a>

**Figure 4.** Map showing extent of land granted to the Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Company in 1887.<sup>56</sup> The grant measured approximately twenty miles from the eastern shore of Vancouver Island, from Muir Creek to Crown Mountain.

"Esquimalt & Nanaimo Railway Crown Grant." In Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, *The Great Land Grab in Hul'qumi'num Territory* (2007), page 5.

**Figure 5.** Map showing lands granted to the E&N within Hul'qumi'num Core Territory. White parcels within the grey area, such as those around the City of Duncan, show parcels that were pre-empted or otherwise alienated from the Crown independent of the grant.

"Land Granted to the E&N Railway Company in Hul'qumi'num Core Territory." In Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, *The Great Land Grab in Hul'qumi'num Territory* (2007), page 11.

**Figure 6.** Undated map showing location of Rev. Garrett's lands at the south end of Somenos Lake (here labeled "Mt Prevost Lk") in Somenos District.

F. Richards, "Cowichan Electoral District" (n.d.), Land Title and Survey Authority of BC Maps, University of Victoria Libraries: <a href="https://vault.library.uvic.ca/concern/generic works/aaae8853-51a1-46cc-ab71-bd457417d1e5">https://vault.library.uvic.ca/concern/generic works/aaae8853-51a1-46cc-ab71-bd457417d1e5</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> The date provided on the image (1884) indicates the year in the land was conveyed from BC to the Dominion of Canada. The E&N Railway Company received these lands in 1887 after completing the railway. See Black, 'An Archive of Settler Belonging', 105.

### References

#### Archival

A.C. Garrett, "Reminiscences," E/B/G19, British Columbia Archives, Victoria, BC.

Archives of the Diocese of British Columbia, Victoria, BC.

G.M. Sproat, "Rough memorandum on Cowichan Reserve," Feb 1878, file 9756-1, vol. 3662, reel C-10116, RG10, Department of Indian Affairs, Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, ON: http://central.bac-lac.gc.ca/.redirect?app=fonandcol&id=2061716&lang=eng

#### Published

- Arnett, Chris. *The Terror of the Coast: Land Alienation and Colonial War on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands, 1849-1863.* Burnaby, B.C: Talonbooks, 1999.
- Artibise, Alan F.J., and Ken Favrholdt. 'Duncan'. In *The Canadian Encyclopedia*. Historica Canada, 2015 2009. https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/dunca.
- BC Treaty Commission. 'Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group'. Accessed 28 November 2023. https://bctreaty.ca/hulquminum-treaty-group/.
- BC Treaty Commission. 'Land and Resources', n.d. https://www.bctreaty.ca/land-and-resources.
- Black, Kelly. 'An Archive of Settler Belonging: Local Feeling, Land, and the Forest Resource on Vancouver Island'. PhD dissertation, Carleton University, 2017.
- British Colonist. 'Cowichan Settlers'. 12 August 1862. https://archive.org/details/dailycolonist18620812uvic/page/n1/mode/2up.
- Columbia Mission Society. *Fifth Annual Report of the Columbia Mission for the Year 1863*. London: Rivingtons, 1864.
- ———. Ninth Annual Report of the Columbia Mission for the Year 1867. London: Rivingtons, 1868. Dougan, Nathan Paul, and Robert I. Dougan. Cowichan, My Valley. Cobble Hill, BC: R.I. Dougan, 1973. Duncan, Kenneth. History of Cowichan, n.d.
- Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group. 'The Great Land Grab in Hul'qumi'num Territory'. Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group, 2007. http://www.hulquminum.bc.ca/pubs/HTGRailwayBookSpreads.pdf.
- Lutz, John. 'The Rutters' Impasse and the End of Treaty Making on Vancouver Island'. In *To Share, Not Surrender: Indigenous and Settler Visions of Treaty Making in the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia*, edited by Peter Cook, Neil Vallance, John Lutz, Graham Brazier, and Hamar Foster, 220–43. Vancouver: UBC Press, 2021.
- Mackie, Richard. 'The Colonization of Vancouver Island, 1849-1858'. *BC Studies*, no. 96 (1992): 3–40. Morales, Sarah Noël. 'Snuw'uyulh: Fostering an Understanding of the Hul'qumi'num Legal Tradition'. PhD dissertation, University of Victoria, 2014.
- Norcross, Elizabeth. The Warm Land: A History of Cowichan. Duncan, B.C: E.B. Norcross, 1959.
- O'Donnell, Brendan. 'Indian and Non-Native Use of the Cowichan and Koksilah Rivers: An Historical Perspective'. Issue 8 of Policy and Program Planning, Native Affairs Division. Canada. Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 1988. https://waves-vagues.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/library-bibliotheque/112602.pdf.
- Slate, G. Hollis. 'New Light on Herbert Beaver'. *British Columbia Historical Quarterly* 6, no. 1 (January 1942): 13–30.
- Tennant, Paul. Aboriginal Peoples and Politics: The Indian Land Question in British Columbia, 1849-1989. Vancouver: UBC Press, 1990.

- Thackray, William Swanton. 'Keeping the Peace on Vancouver Island: The Colonial Police and the Royal Navy, 1850-1866'. MA Thesis, University of Victoria, 1977.
- Wells, Oliver. *Vancouver's Island. Survey of the Districts of Nanaimo and Cowichan Valley*. London: Groombridge and Sons, 1859. https://open.library.ubc.ca/viewer/bcbooks/1.0221851#p0z-5r0f: