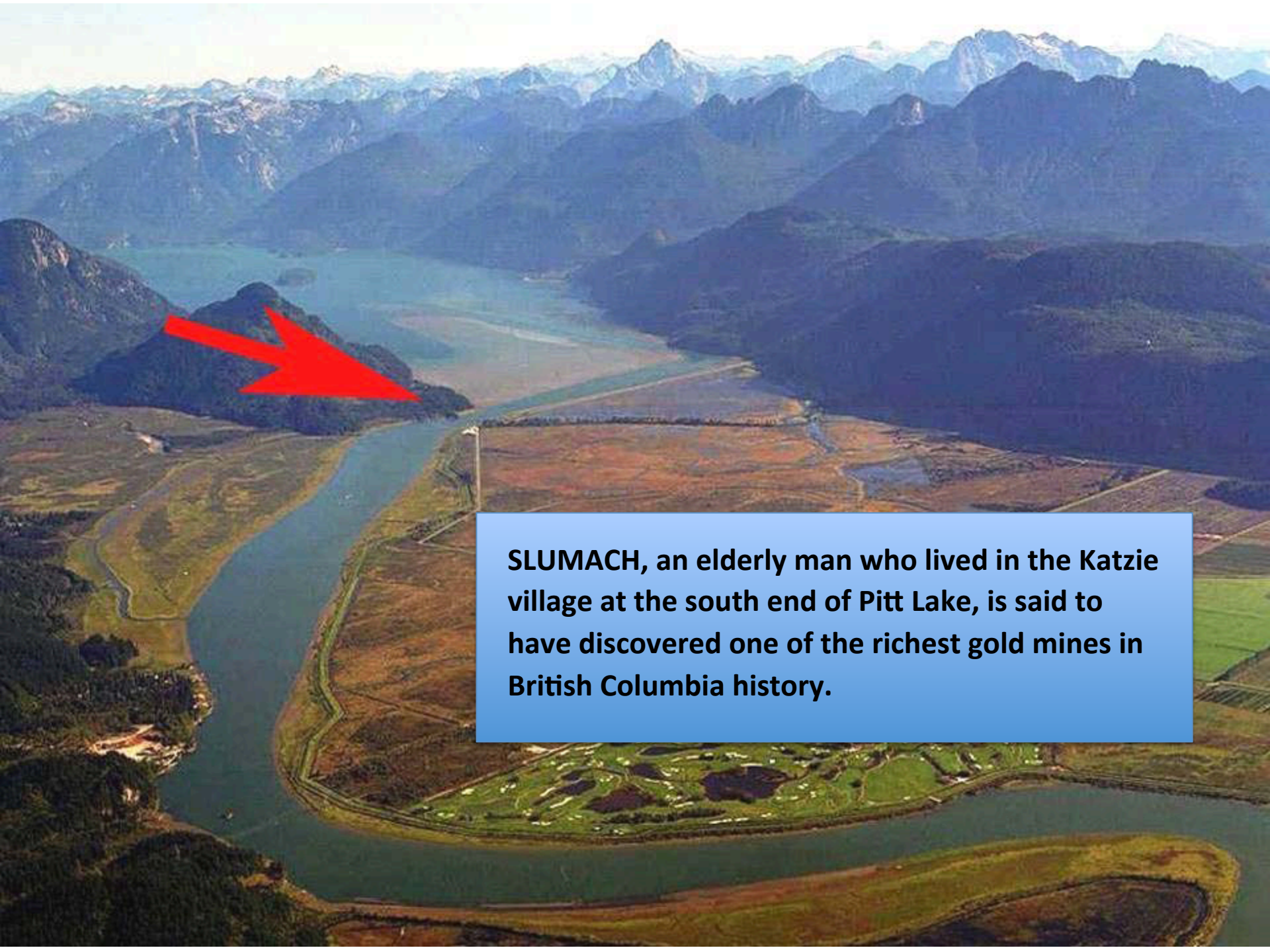


Slumach and the Pitt Lake Gold Mine

Saturday, July 16th

1:00pm-2:00pm





SLUMACH, an elderly man who lived in the Katzie village at the south end of Pitt Lake, is said to have discovered one of the richest gold mines in British Columbia history.

Widgeon Slough and Grant Narrows

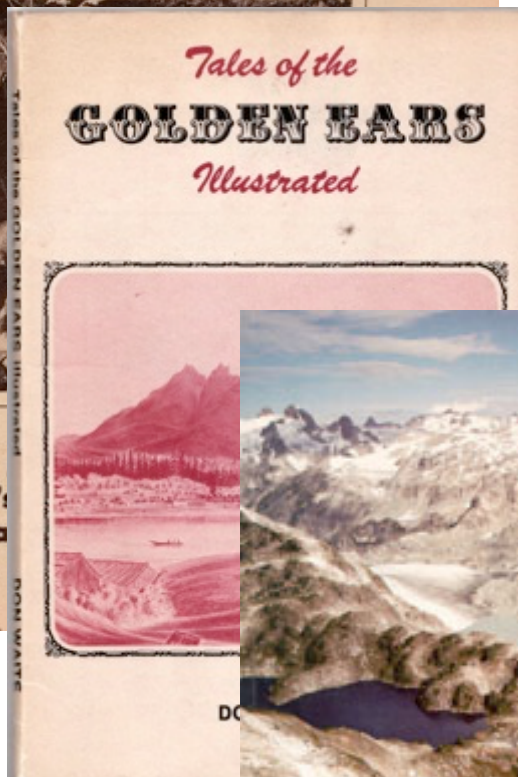
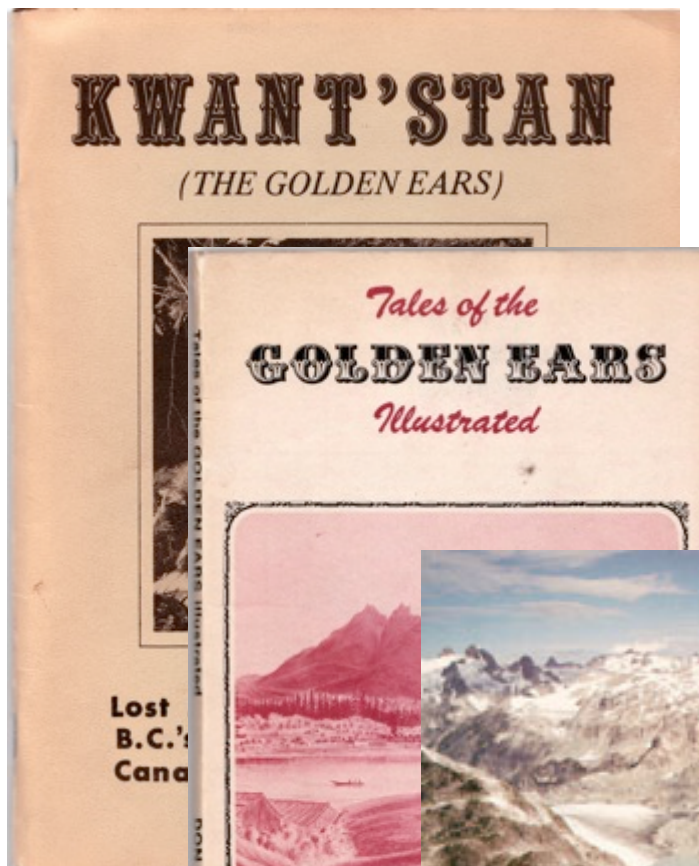


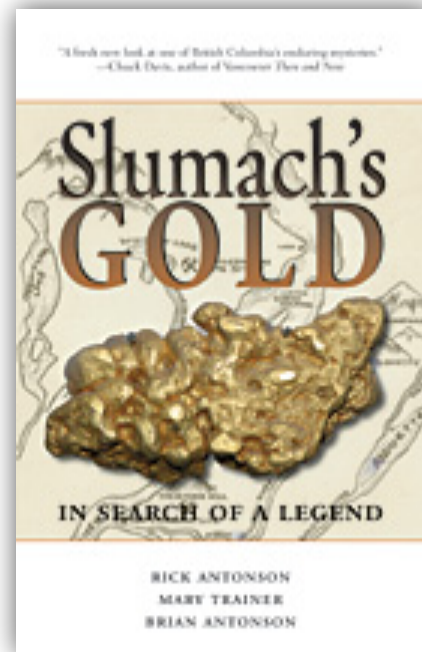
**Katzie
First Nation**

“It’s one of the main parts of our territory. It’s kind of like our Crown jewel.”

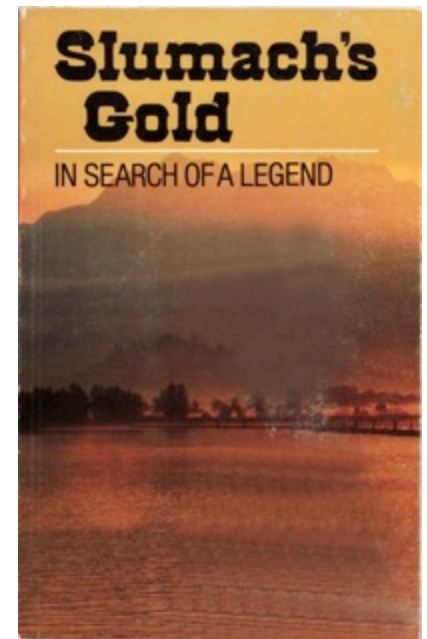
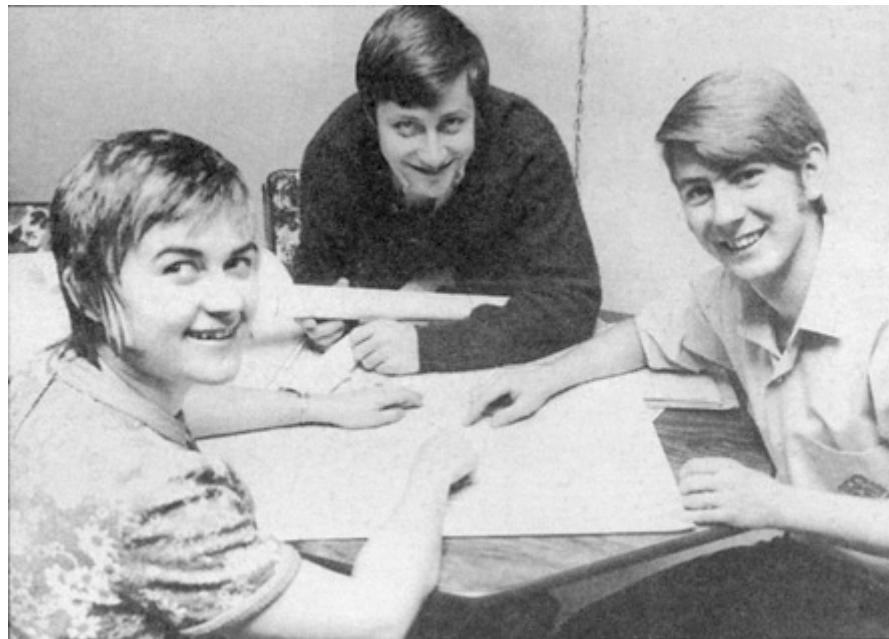
Chief Jay Bailey

June 2011





Published 2007
More than
8,500 copies sold



SLUMACH

A Web site for all who prefer facts over fiction

"Slumach, the jury have found you guilty of the wilful murder of Louis Bee I am bound [?] to say. I therefore pronounced sentence of death to take place on 16 January next." [Judge Drake's Bench Book, 15 November 1890]

*Slumach, the jury have found you
guilty of the wilful murder of Louis Bee
I am bound to say
I therefore pronounced sentence of death
to take place on 16 January next.*

In 1891 an elderly Native man whose name today is mostly spelled Slumach was hanged in New Westminster for murdering a man called Louis Bee. Myth links Slumach to a fabled bonanza known as Slumach's Gold, Lost Creek Gold, the Lost Creek Mine, or the Lost Mine of Pitt Lake. Click here to read a summary of the story of Slumach and his supposed connection to the legendary gold of Pitt Lake.

Around 1900 stories started emerging in the press about gold found by a Native man in the impenetrable mountains around Pitt Lake. In 1915, an American prospector named Armstrong connected Slumach to this legendary Pitt Lake bonanza. Armstrong's story is the archetype of the Pitt Lake gold legend repeated ever since by old-timers, journalists, and authors in their versions of the tale.

This site provides source material on Slumach and other real or imagined characters and features of the "Lost-Creek Mine" stories. There are for instance transcripts of legal records, newspaper and magazine articles, about the Pitt Lake bonanza.

For my thoughts on the Pitt Lake legends go to If You Ask Me. Visit my blog for research items, news, and comments.

If you use information from this site, it'd be nice if you'd acknowledge this Web site as your source. Your contributions, messages, comments, corrections, and recommendations are very welcome. Feel free to put a link to this site on your Web site and let me know if you'd like me to reciprocate.

I acknowledge gratefully contributions, support, and encouragement from: Rick and Brian Antonson, Jim Carter, Mike Collier, Hमार Foster, Darren Gosselin, Ann Lunghamer, Cal Mark, Dale and Archie Miller, Rob Nicholson, David Mattison, Joanne Peterson, Greg Ray, Fred Rogers, Don Waite, Jim Wolf, and the staff of the New Westminster Public Library, Vancouver Public Library, and BC Archives.

WEB SITE AWARD 2008

British Columbia
Historical Federation
&
David Mattison



Newspapers 1800s

Newspapers 1900s

Publications 2000s

Aunt Mandy's Interviews

Transcripts from Legal Records

Legal Records

Books & Videos

E-books & Links

Miscelanea

Slumach's Gold

Go to Blog

If You Ask Me

The material provided
requires Adobe Reader.
Click the icon for a free
download.



IN SEARCH OF SLUMACH

IN 1891, IN NEW WESTMINSTER BC, AN ELDERLY NATIVE MAN WAS HANGED FOR MURDER. TODAY, LEGENDS OF EPIC PROPORTIONS LINK HIM WITH RICH GOLD FINDINGS IN THE MOUNTAINS AROUND PITT LAKE AND MULTIPLE KILLINGS. WHAT DO WE REALLY KNOW ABOUT THIS MAN AND WHERE DID THE LEGENDS COME FROM?

THURSDAY, 30 JUNE, 2011

Garry N. McIsaac

In the fall of 1983 a joint CKVU/Province team set out to find the Lost Creek Mine. A series of articles in *The Province* by Jon Ferry followed the team on their arduous trek. From the [first article](#) in the series:

Among with them was a man blessed with glittering gold mining expertise and psychic powers dating back at least a dozen years. He is Abbotsford prospector Gary McIsaac, who pinpointed what he believed to be the mine after examining aerial maps of the Pitt Mountain area. McIsaac, 40, also said he witnessed a vision of Slumach standing by the tent-shaped rock that marked his glory hole. "There was a cave, you could actually see an Indian standing by the cave and he had a tomahawk in his hand."

Why did we not hear from McIsaac since then? He died in September 2005 in a remote part of the Alaska. His greatest passion was gold mining. He would spend months at a time on the rugged coastline of Alaska prospecting for gold. For his obituary [go here](#).

POSTED BY FB AT 5:53 PM 0 COMMENTS

WEDNESDAY, 22 JUNE, 2011

Thomas Clive Atkinson



T C Atkinson, barrister and police magistrate, New Westminster defended in the Slumach case. Click on the picture to read his obituary. Looking for more about him. It is said that his brother-in-law was the editor of the *Columbian*.

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SATURDAY, 18 JUNE, 2011

Page Views

SLUMACH AND THE PITT LAKE GOLD MINE

Maple Ridge Library

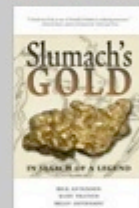
Saturday, July 16th 1:00pm-2:00pm

Award winning local historian Fred Braches will be talking about the history and legends surrounding Slumach and the Pitt Lake gold bonanza.

THIS BLOG IS...

... a companion to the prize-winning Web site "Slumach"

GUIDE TO TREASURE



Click on picture for more info

READ THE FIRST 38 PAGES OF SLUMACH'S GOLD -- FREE!

Have a quick look!

BOOK SIGNING

On Friday, August 5 from 10:00 in the morning to 2:00 in the afternoon Brain and Rick Antonson will be signing books at **Virgin Books, at Vancouver International Airport, Domestic Terminal, Level 3**. The will sign *Slumach's Gold* and Rick will also sign copies of his fabulous *To Timbuktu for a Haircut*.

BLOG ARCHIVE

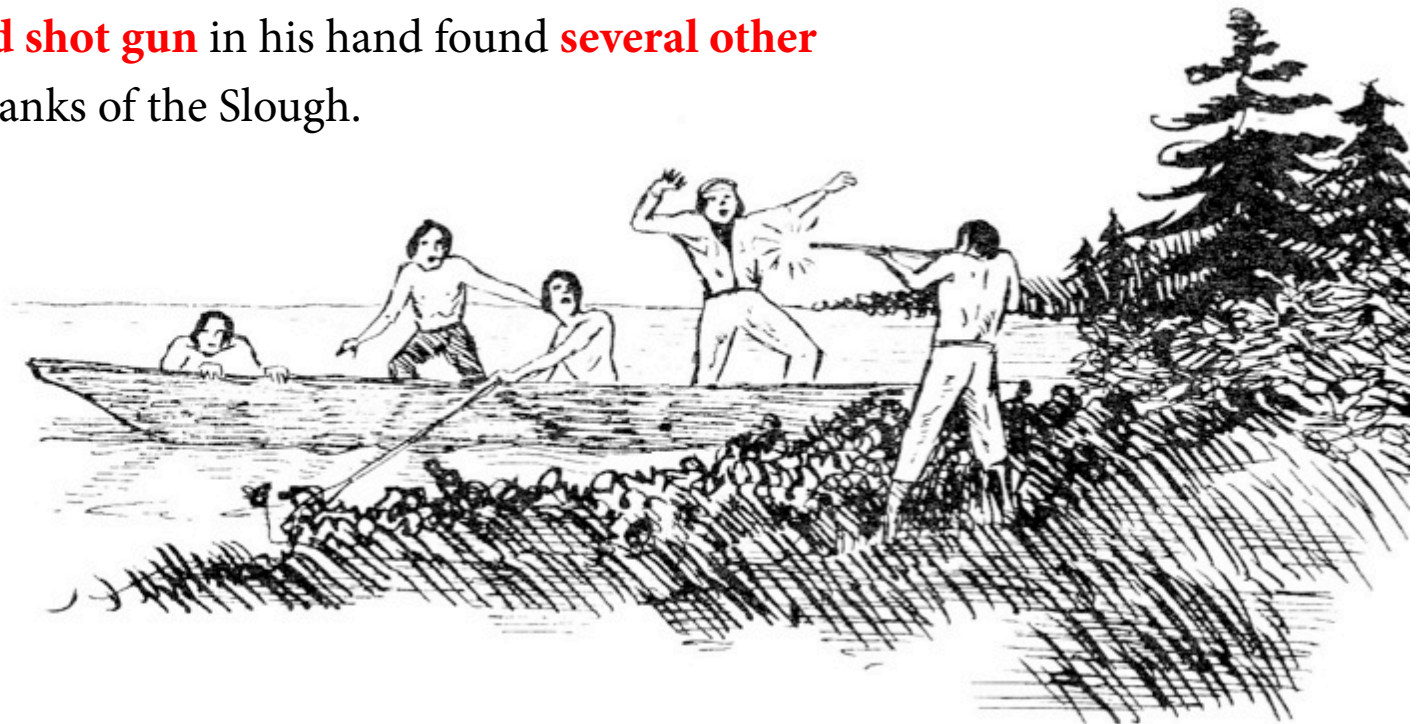
▼ 2011 (28)

▼ June (8)

Daily Columbian 9 September 1890

A terrible, unpremeditated murder was committed yesterday afternoon at a point on **Lillooet Slough**, not far from the Pitt River, and some two and a half miles above the Pitt River bridge.

An Indian named [Slumach], aged about 60 years, was hunting in the neighbourhood and coming out of the bush with his **double-barrelled shot gun** in his hand found **several other Indians** on the banks of the Slough.



MIDWAY MINE ?
BETWEEN SQUAMISH
AND PITTLAKE

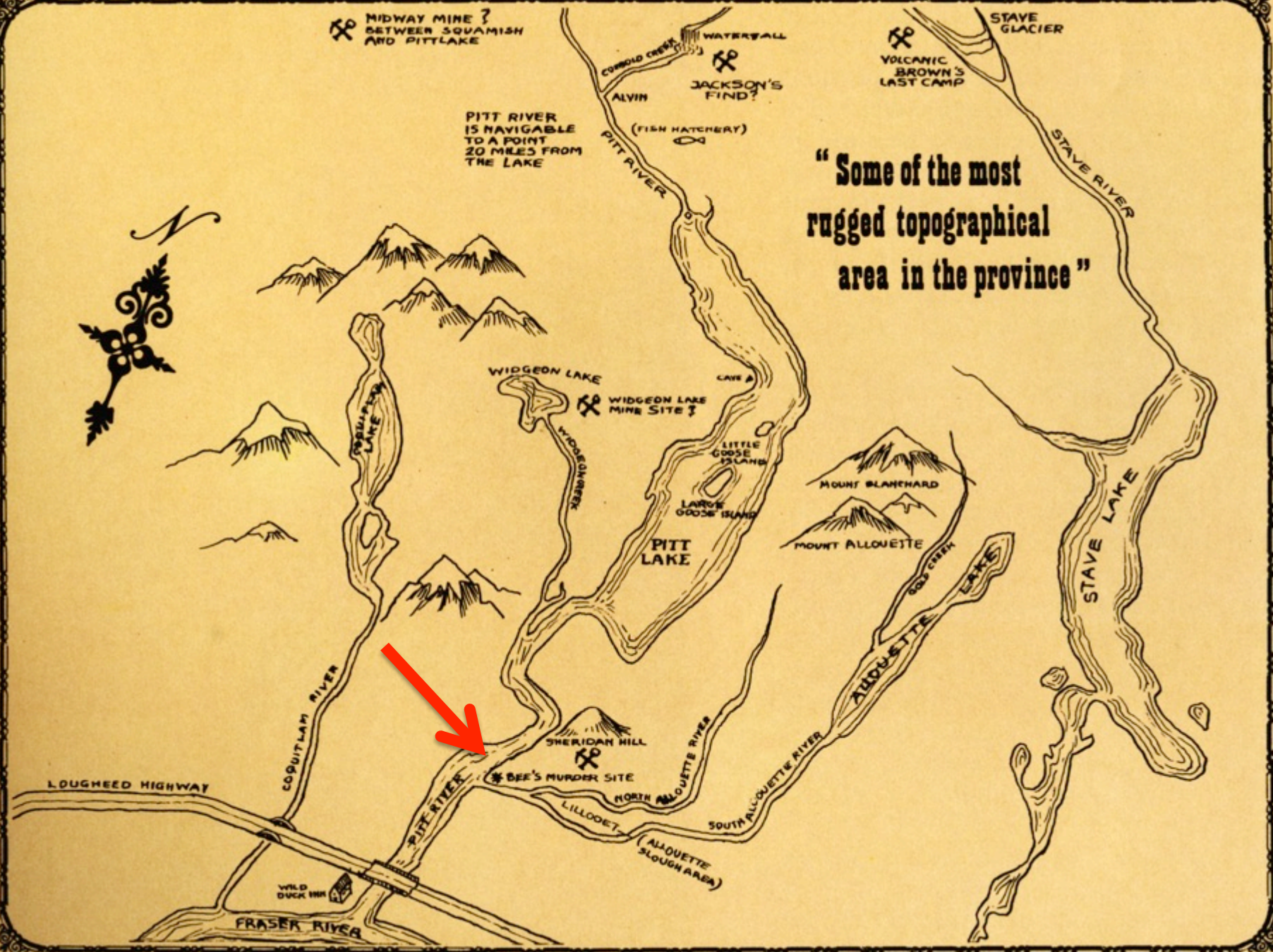
PITT RIVER
IS NAVIGABLE
TO A POINT
20 MILES FROM
THE LAKE

WATERFALL
JACKSON'S
FIND ?
(FISH HATCHERY)

VOLCANIC
BROWN'S
LAST CAMP

STAVE
GLACIER

"Some of the most
rugged topographical
area in the province"





Canada
Province of British Columbia
County of Westminster
the 10th.

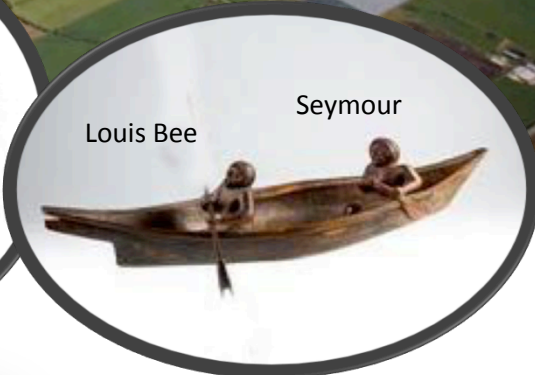
Information of testimony
(6)

Information of testimony
I, the undersigned, do hereby certify
on behalf of our Government that
the River, touching the death of
Louis Bee at Westminister
in the County of Westminster on
the 10th day of September in the year
of our Lord one thousand eight
hundred and forty, before one
of the undersigned, being one of Her
Majesty's Justices for the Peace
County, we are, by reason of the
age then being dead, as follows,
to wit:

Information of testimony
in the said County of Westminster
a fine blooded Indian, being known
as the said Louis Bee in
a canoe to last after some
Sturgeon Lewis on Monday
afternoon last there were only
the two of us in the canoe
we went down the beach to buy
and find some dead salmon
to put on the Sturgeon Lewis
The man at the river about
Sturgeon Lewis from West-
minister, we saw a canoe
coming down the river
we heard a shot go off
and Louis said to himself
it was a white man in the



Slumach



Louis Bee

Seymour



Peter Pierre, his wife Catherine and four of their younger children in 1907.

“You know where Sturgeon Slough is? This point on the west side of Sturgeon Slough across the Pitt River, the corner before you turn north to the quarry, that’s where it happened, just a little west of the corner.”
(Mrs. Charnley, 1978)



Amanda Charnley (Aunt Mandy) and Donald E. Waite, 1972



WILLIAM MORESBY,
governor of the Provincial
jail in New Westminster,
was in charge of Slumach's
arrest....but failed.

CAPT. PITTENDRIGH,
coroner and
stipendiary
magistrate, did the
inquest on Bee's
remains and
preliminary hearings
after Slumach
turned himself in.



The Slumach family house
was burned down by order of Moresby.
The people were removed from the place.

PETER PIERRE





William Mosesby, Governor of
the Provincial Gaol at New
Westminster, County of Westminster
being sworn in, that the body
which the jury has seen hanged
by the gall was that of one
Slumach an Indian who was
executed by hanging by the
gall until dead, in accordance
with the sentence of the Assize
Court 18th November 1891, by
Mr Justice Drake, and was executed
this day 16th January 1891.

W. Mosesby

Taken upon oath and acknowledged
this 16th day of January. A.D. 1891.
before me

Attorney General

Defending council: THOMAS CLIVE
ATKINSON, barrister and police magistrate
Witnesses for defense: FLORENCE REID and
GEORGE MOODY



Provincial gaol, New
Westminster, where
Slumach was hanged
in 1891.



16 January 1891

Mr. Justice Drake, who presided over Slumach's trial.

Nome Família.	A. D. Dia Mensal.	REGISTRUM BAPTISMORUM.	Observações.
Slumach	Jan 16 1891	Ego infrascriptus baptizavi <u>Petrum (Slumach, Indian)</u> . nat. _____ ex _____ ex loco _____ ei _____ ex loco _____ conjugibus _____ Patrini fuerunt _____ <u>W. H. J. Morgan (In?)</u>	In gaol im- mediately before execution, New Westminster (Catesy Indian)

Slumach, Jan 16 1891 – Father Morgan baptized Slumach and gave him the name Peter. “In gaol immediately before execution” (Catesy [Katzie] Indian)

January 2009

Standing at Slumach’s grave,
Garnet Pierre
Willie Pierre
Cyril Pierre





19th Century liquor bottle found at Pitt Lake

1882 **Charley Seymour**, an Indian and an old offender, got 6 months with hard labour for supplying liquor to Indians and another 6 months with hard labour for having liquor in his possession in an Indian house.

In 1887 **Louis Bee**, a half-breed, was arrested for supplying liquor to Indians, and was sentenced by the police magistrate to six months imprisonment with hard labour.

November 1890: Dan, a Kaetzi (sic) Indian was fined \$5 and one month imprisonment at hard labor for being intoxicated. John Anderson, a white man, was fined "the usual \$2.50 plus cost."