

Nass River:

I figured heavily in traditional history of Tlingits.

a. mythical home of Raven at head of River

1. Raven - creator figure

b. Tradition says Indians once lived on coast between Nass and Skeena River.

1. area still rich in fish -

2. occupied by Tsimshian at time of European contact.

c. Southern coastal neighbors Tsimshian

1. from whom Tlingit women learned how to make "Chilkat blanket".

II Haida of Queen Charlotte Islands were universally known as best canoe-makers.

a. large cedars grow there

III King Tlingit & Haida fought each other bitterly - Tlingit & Kaigani got along well.

IV - Four major rivers cut way to sea through mountain ranges: Stikine, Takli, Nass, & Chilkat.

1. Inland Indians descended ~~to~~ on these early.

2. Tlingits cut off trickle of Athabaskans when European contact came.

a. Tlingits did not want competition in ~~with~~ trade.

Tradition of Raven: (heavy in Tlingit Tradition)

1. Source - head of Nass River

2. Nass River was where Tlingits received "Raven" Crest.

292 MASK OF A WOMAN
Wood, with red, brown, black and
traces of white pigment and rawhide
strap

22.2 (8 3/4) HIGH

Collected by Rev. Sheldon Jackson,
1882

Princeton University Museum of
Natural History, PU 3924

A very similar mask in the same
collection (PU 3961), with com-
parable red foliate tattoos in a simpler
pattern, displays the same sensitivity
and realistic modeling as the present
example (fig. i).

C. D. L.



figure i

