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History 1120-02

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Research Paper Outline

Due November 2, 2016

Research Question

What influence and/or role did Chief Wickaninnish have in the fur trade on Vancouver Island?

There is an area on Vancouver Island named after Chief Wickaninnish (between Ucluelet and Tofino) and I knew briefly that he had a part in the fur trade on the island. I decided to explore his role in the fur trade and how it affected him and his peoples of the Clayoquot sound.

Outline

Introduction- Introduce who Wickaninnish is (why he is important), research question

Paragraph 1- Talk about Wickaninnish, what he did for his people of the Clayoquot Sound, why he was so well respected by others (his peoples and not)

Paragraph 2- Start to discuss research question (how he first became involved with the fur trade, what it did for him and his people, how big of a role or influence was he, did it have positive or negative impacts)

Paragraph 3- Talk about his legacy

Conclusion

Bibliography

Primary Source

Mears, John. *Voyages Made in the Years 1788-1789 from China to the Pacific Northwest*. London, Logographic Press, 1791.

Secondary Source(s)

Mathes, Valerie Sherer. "Wickaninnish, a Clayoquot Chief, as Recorded by Early Travelers." *The Pacific Northwest Quarterly*. Vol. 70. Issue 3. (1979): P. 110-120.

Fisher, Robin. *Contact and Conflict: Indian- European Relations in British Columbia, 1744-1890*. UBC: UBC Press, January 1992.

Binnema, T. and S. Neylan. *New Histories for Old: Changing Perspectives on Canada's Native Past*. UBC: UBC Press, July 2008.

Duff, Wilson. *The Indian History of British Columbia; The Impact of the White Man*. Victoria. Royal British Columbia Museum. 1997.

Statement of Process

1. How did you choose your topic?

I chose my topic by trying to find something I was interested in and something I liked. I was going to go along the lines of education (as I plan to go into teaching) but it was tough to find articles. Then I was going to choose something to do with beer as I have found a hobby in craft brewing but that also proved difficult. Then I thought about the west coast and how in love I am with the island. My partner and I traveled down last Christmas and spent the better part of a day exploring Wickaninnish beach and surrounding. I decided to look up what or who Wickaninnish was and it led me to a Chief. When I mentioned it to my partner, he mentioned that in one of his anthropology classes, they mentioned him and his influence in the fur trade and I thought looking into his interactions with Europeans would be interesting.

2. How did you choose your sources?

I had a meeting with Brenda Smith to help me choose my sources. She guided me along then I explored a little more. My primary source was a journal kept by an Irish navigator. I was skeptical to use it at first because I thought it could be a little biased but I read on and it was actually very insightful. Then I found a few more online and a book in the library and they all have a First Nations view. That was important for me because I still feel like a lot of their stories are missed. I like that I have a source from the other side as well though because it gives a bit of balance to what was happening at that time.

3. What assumptions did you bring to your research?

I did come in with the assumptions that I wasn't going to be able to find a lot that vouched for the First Nations people of Vancouver Island, mainly because that's how history goes. I also came in with the idea that anything from a view that wasn't First Nations wasn't going to be useful or something I wanted to use. My first journal (by John Mears) proved different. It gave a different perspective. I also assumed that it was all going to be quite tragic but reading on about Chief Wickaninnish, he was a likeable man and got on with others quite well.

4. How has your view of the past changed as a result of the research that you have done? What unanswered questions about this topic do you still have?

Coming into this research, I had a bias of the Europeans and how they destroyed the First Nations peoples and their territory. While that is true in many instances, you can't paint everyone with one brush. Some were not kind and did damage while others were kind. The Europeans came with their biases and we criticize them for that but we're not criticized for our biases thinking that they were all evil. We must remember that everyone is an individual. The questions I still have are less pertaining to anything to do with research. I wonder things about how some people came in, so down on the peoples already here but others came (Ex. Mears) and embraced their culture. I often wonder what changed their minds for them to believe differently.

5. What will you do differently next time?

Next time, I would want to come in with a less biased opinion on one side or another. I think when analyzing history, it's really important to come in level headed and try to forget our beliefs for a little bit in order to empathize and understand what the others were going through.