

AHOUSAHT HAHOULTHEE

This map was made from locations and names recorded in a report and interview with Mr. Peter Webster, a well-known elder from Ahousaht.

ʔuutsuʔisʔath Local Group Sites

Kitsiik – The name for a small island off Clifford Point.

Muuyahi – This was an important ʔuutsuʔisʔath fall fishing site as chum, spring Coho and pink salmon were caught in the Moyeha River. It was a good clam digging location as well.

Nuʔtsuu – The name for Mckay Island is derived from nuʔl meaning Mountain.

Maaktusis – This was the main ʔuutsuʔisʔath winter village occupied after the fishing in the rivers and creeks at the head of the inlets was finished. While residing there the ʔuutsuʔisʔath fished halibut, salmon, and collected herring spawn.

Kwaatsuwis – A ʔuutsuʔisʔath summer village. This site was important for many spring salmon caught on nearby fishing banks. Halibut and fur seal were also obtained from this location.

ʕitsʔi – This was according to Peter Webster and Luke Swan, the ʔuutsuʔisʔath – Maahuʔisʔath territorial boundary. The name means, “sideways on the beach”.

Qʷaatsuwiiʔath Local Group Sites

Qʷatʷwii – This is the village site from which the Qʷaatsuwiiʔath took their name. This was an important fall – winter village. Dog Salmon (chum) and Sockeye spawn in the creek (Bulsom Creek).

ʔupnit – Meaning, “always calm”. Canoeists sought this protected site during rough weather.

Tiiʕakpi – This is the boundary line between Qʷaatsuwiiʔath and the Huuʔinmitisʔath on the north side of Matset Narrow. The word means “rocky point”.

Tiuhʔiç – This Kiltsmaʔath winter site was shared by the Huuʔinmitisʔath and the Qʷaatsuwiiʔath prior to the amalgamation with the ʔaahuusʔath (Ahousaht). Winter spawn of salmon and cod were caught here.

Maaʔuʔisʔath Local Group Sites

Hisnit – This was an important Maaʔuʔisʔath village site because of the large runs of Sockeye salmon that spawned in the nearby lake and stream system. Apparently the senior chief launched whaling expeditions from this site. The name means, “place of Sockeye salmon”.

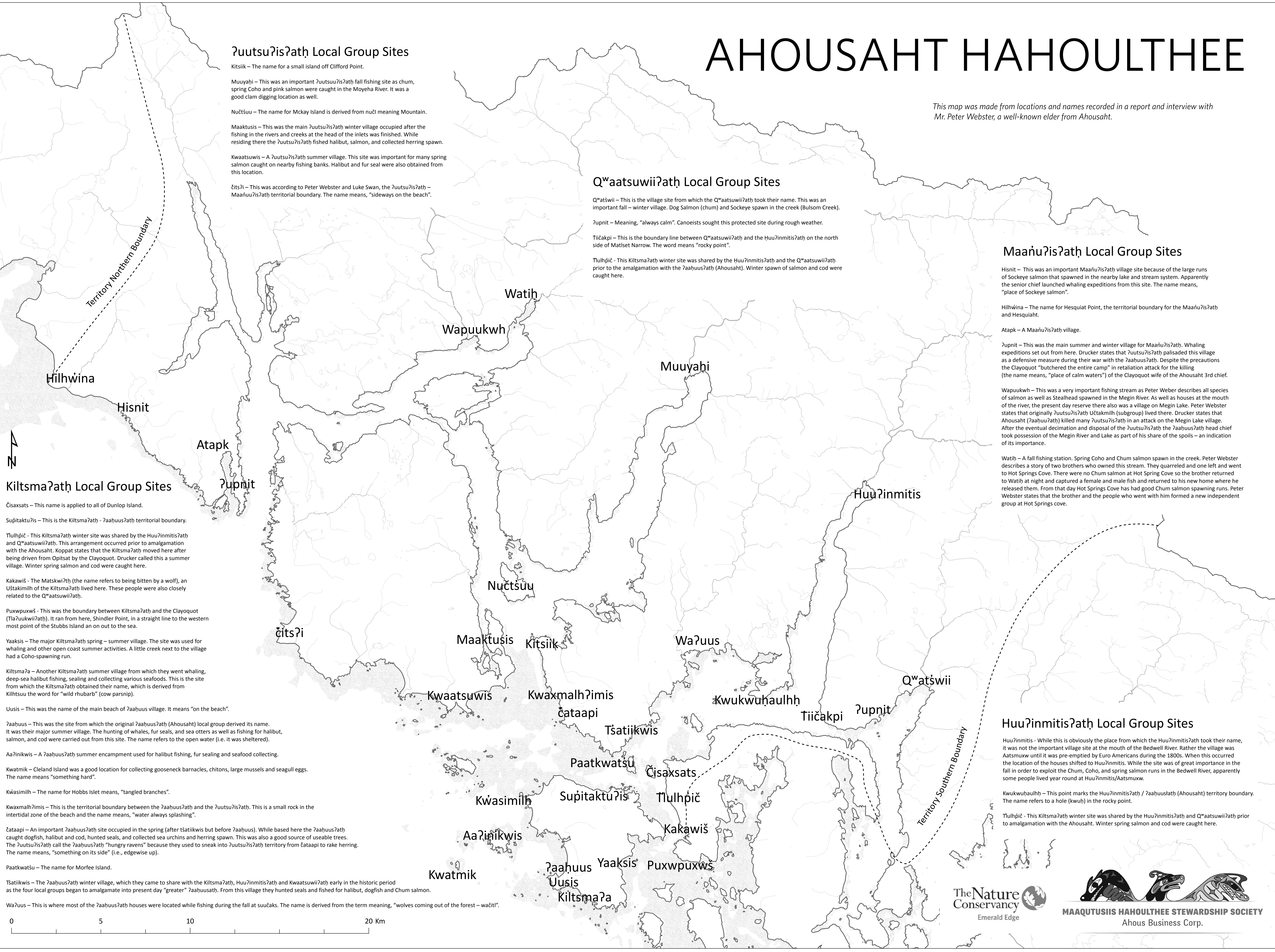
Hilhwina – The name for Hesquiat Point, the territorial boundary for the Maaʔuʔisʔath and Hesquiaht.

Atapk – A Maaʔuʔisʔath village.

ʔupnit – This was the main summer and winter village for Maaʔuʔisʔath. Whaling expeditions set out from here. Drucker states that ʔuutsuʔisʔath palisaded this village as a defensive measure during their war with the ʔaahuusʔath. Despite the precautions the Clayoquot “butchered the entire camp” in retaliation attack for the killing (the name means, “place of calm waters”) of the Clayoquot wife of the Ahousaht 3rd chief.

Wapuukwh – This was a very important fishing stream as Peter Weber describes all species of salmon as well as Stealhead spawned in the Megin River. As well as houses at the mouth of the river, the present day reserve there also was a village on Megin Lake. Peter Webster states that originally ʔuutsuʔisʔath Uʕtakmilh (subgroup) lived there. Drucker states that Ahousaht (ʔaahuʔath) killed many ʔuutsuʔisʔath in an attack on the Megin Lake village. After the eventual decimation and disposal of the ʔuutsuʔisʔath the ʔaahuusʔath head chief took possession of the Megin River and Lake as part of his share of the spoils – an indication of its importance.

Watih – A fall fishing station. Spring Coho and Chum salmon spawn in the creek. Peter Webster describes a story of two brothers who owned this stream. They quarreled and one left and went to Hot Springs Cove. There were no Chum salmon at Hot Spring Cove so the brother returned to Watih at night and captured a female and male fish and returned to his new home where he released them. From that day Hot Springs Cove has had good Chum salmon spawning runs. Peter Webster states that the brother and the people who went with him formed a new independent group at Hot Springs cove.



Kiltsmaʔath Local Group Sites

ʕisaxsats – This name is applied to all of Dunlop Island.

Supitaktuʔis – This is the Kiltsmaʔath – ʔaahuusʔath territorial boundary.

Tiuhʔiç – This Kiltsmaʔath winter site was shared by the Huuʔinmitisʔath and Qʷaatsuwiiʔath. This arrangement occurred prior to amalgamation with the Ahousaht. Koppat states that the Kiltsmaʔath moved here after being driven from Opitsat by the Clayoquot. Drucker called this a summer village. Winter spring salmon and cod were caught here.

Kakawiʕ – The Matskwiʔth (the name refers to being bitten by a wolf), an Uʕtakmilh of the Kiltsmaʔath lived here. These people were also closely related to the Qʷaatsuwiiʔath.

Puxwpuxws – This was the boundary between Kiltsmaʔath and the Clayoquot (Tiiʕakpiʔath). It ran from here, Shindler Point, in a straight line to the western most point of the Stubbs Island an on out to the sea.

Yaaksis – The major Kiltsmaʔath spring – summer village. The site was used for whaling and other open coast summer activities. A little creek next to the village had a Coho-spawning run.

Kiltsmaʔa – Another Kiltsmaʔath summer village from which they went whaling, deep-sea halibut fishing, sealing and collecting various seafoods. This is the site from which the Kiltsmaʔath obtained their name, which is derived from Kiltsuu the word for “wild rhubarb” (cow parsnip).

Uusis – This was the name of the main beach of ʔaahuus village. It means “on the beach”.

ʔaahuus – This was the site from which the original ʔaahuusʔath (Ahousaht) local group derived its name. It was their major summer village. The hunting of whales, fur seals, and sea otters as well as fishing for halibut, salmon, and cod were carried out from this site. The name refers to the open water (i.e. it was sheltered).

Aaʔiikwis – A ʔaahuusʔath summer encampment used for halibut fishing, fur sealing and seafood collecting.

Kwatmik – Cleland Island was a good location for collecting gooseneck barnacles, chitons, large mussels and seagull eggs. The name means “something hard”.

Kwasimilh – The name for Hobbs Islet means, “tangled branches”.

Kwaxmalhʔimis – This is the territorial boundary between the ʔaahuusʔath and the ʔuutsuʔisʔath. This is a small rock in the intertidal zone of the beach and the name means, “water always splashing”.

ʕataapi – An important ʔaahuusʔath site occupied in the spring (after tʕatiikwis but before ʔaahuus). While based here the ʔaahuusʔath caught dogfish, halibut and cod, hunted seals, and collected sea urchins and herring spawn. This was also a good source of useable trees. The ʔuutsuʔisʔath call the ʔaahuusʔath “hungry ravens” because they used to sneak into ʔuutsuʔisʔath territory to rake herring. The name means, “something on its side” (i.e., edgewise up).

Paatkwatsu – The name for Morfee Island.

Tʕatiikwis – The ʔaahuusʔath winter village, which they came to share with the Kiltsmaʔath, Huuʔinmitisʔath and Kwaatsuwiiʔath early in the historic period as the four local groups began to amalgamate into present day “greater” ʔaahuusʔath. From this village they hunted seals and fished for halibut, dogfish and Chum salmon.

Waʔuus – This is where most of the ʔaahuusʔath houses were located while fishing during the fall at suuʕaks. The name is derived from the term meaning, “wolves coming out of the forest – waʕit!”

Huuʔinmitisʔath Local Group Sites

Huuʔinmitis – While this is obviously the place from which the Huuʔinmitisʔath took their name, it was not the important village site at the mouth of the Bedwell River. Rather the village was Aatsmuxx until it was pre-empted by Euro Americans during the 1800s. When this occurred the location of the houses shifted to Huuʔinmitis. While the site was of great importance in the fall in order to exploit the Chum, Coho, and spring salmon runs in the Bedwell River, apparently some people lived year round at Huuʔinmitis/Aatsmuxx.

Kwakwuhaulh – This point marks the Huuʔinmitisʔath / ʔaahuusʔath (Ahousaht) territory boundary. The name refers to a hole (kwuh) in the rocky point.

Tiuhʔiç – This Kiltsmaʔath winter site was shared by the Huuʔinmitisʔath and Qʷaatsuwiiʔath prior to amalgamation with the Ahousaht. Winter spring salmon and cod were caught here.

