

Kwakiutl

By

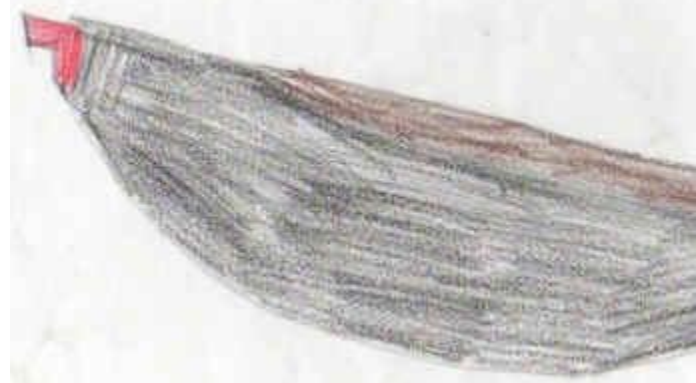
Malayna



Kwakiutl is one of the major tribes of the Northwest coast. Kwakiutl means “smoke of world”. The tribe lived on Queen Charlotte sound on the Northern Vancouver Island. In 1750 the population was 5,000 to 6,000 people.

Housing

The Kwakiutl had two types of homes, the winter home and the summer home. The houses were made out of wood and covered with cedar bark. The houses were big and large to hold multiple families. They built winter villages in sheltered locations that offered protection. The summer homes were built near prime fishing spots.



Food

The men and women worked every day to gather food. Men hunted deer, moose, wolf, bear, mink, whale and mountain goats. Women gathered shellfish, seaweed, berries. Canoes were also used to relocate between natural resources.



Religion

Kwakiutl believed in tales of creation from supernatural ancestor.

Example: The great bird or thunder bird would come down and take on human form. The dances and ceremonies were passed on through families. The name for supernatural power was Nawalak.

