

gispa xlo'ts origins

I House of xpi:lək

(taxski'ək)

xpi:lək and ni:swa'mak - gwunhut taxst'ək

Sheppard: gave name lists for "legex house, subdivided into: 1. that of legex, 2. that of ni:swa'mak.

- legex and ni:swa'mak at the beginning were brothers (not real brothers, but their mothers were sisters) It seems that they started two houses about the same time.

- other royal house tkwil'axe'. [Ic] They were too many in ni:swa'mak's house, so this tkwil'axe' built a house of his own.

ni:swa'mak —  
↳ tkwil'axe'

TV  
House of t'amaks (gispawudwads)

gitnagunaks

Clah : t'amaks house subdivided (a) t'amaks (b) nias'ne'tsk  
(c) tsayamse'gisk (d) g'eks

t'amaks is a gitnagunaks house; have the gitnagunaks as their myth; other gitnagunaks here:

k'wilyuhwask and tsayamse'gisk; They were all originally one house at gidostsu (gitnagunaks) t'amaks was the head house; nias'ne'tsk came out first; then tsayamse'gisk, and then k'wilyuhwask

The gitwilgats wut'sint does not originally come from gitnagunaks, they come from the vicinity of there. They use the same myth now. The house of t'amaks and wut'sint are not closely connected; wut'sint is not closely connected with any of the real gitnagunaks, only as a gispawudwada; all could use one or two crests of the gitnagunaks.

Sheppard:

5 houses here trace their ancestry from nagunaks:  
(1) t'amaks (2) tsayamse'gisk (3) nias'ne'tsk  
(4) sugüne'ot (5) rati'adaks (all gispawudwads)

They were all one family first, but being too crowded they separated into several houses. tsayamse'gisk was the first house subdivided. Also trace their ancestry to nagunaks (6) nias'ömaye' (staying now at Metlakatla; some of his relatives are here, wut'sint) (nias'ömaye' is a gidostsu) there was a (gitwilgats) house of niasömaye' (7) wut'sint (gitwilgats). This is about all of those that came from nagunaks here. Some other people here claim that they came from nagunaks but they really came from gidostsu, that is a place near nagunaks

Johnson: Myth of origin - naganaks myth.

∴ when they came out of the monster (thence begins the differences in the myths) there were three in the canoe.

Copy this

[— then long myth applying to laxaxnit'sk and lens, leaving gidest'u, joining gaspa'd's'ts, etc.]

" When the naganaks came here, t'anks group separated into another house. The above tradition does not apply to t'anks. The name of t'anks appears only when the gaspa'd's'ts began to live on the salt water. All the people of the gwunhut gidest'u (gitnaganaks) put themselves with one group, that of lens and laxaxnit'sk. When they multiplied and became numerous they began to assume names of gidest'u origin, and t'anks was one of these. The house of laxaxnit'sk seems to be the foremost of the three.

V  
House of xiyo'p

(laxski>k)

: original gispaxl'ots; close relative of niəs'awε'lp;  
not the same myth; related in later days.

Wellington: says same origin as sp<sup>vi</sup>·xs and ga<sup>xvii</sup>wε'ε'  
& niəs<sup>xii</sup>mō't. He was a gwənhat from Alaska,  
from gadzaxf'a'n (above Ketchikan, on coast)  
They don't know of laxweyp laxskuk here.

Clak: House of xiyo'p (a) xiyo'p (b) wi'p'āmbu'  
ga<sup>xvii</sup>wε'ε' has the same myth, although they were 2 independent houses.

Swanson: puts xiyo'p with ni'sqamdzi's (qilodzax)  
ni'sx'x' (qitand>)

originally all one house.

All share standing beaver door pole.

VI  
II House of suhala'it (gispa'wadwads)

Arthur Wellington. He was a gwunhu't gispa'wadwade from Alaska, and went up the Nass and lived at ksɔ'dzɔ', along the Nass (among the Nasg.ɛ') After that he came to Metlakatla and lived with the gispa'x lo'ts. Before the deluge he was also from t'om lax'am. The getnaginaks never were t'om lax'am. They have no story as to their flight from Alaska. They fled from Alaska at the same time as niɔswa'mak. There was a large community of all coasts from Alaska, who all fought against each other, and all left at the same time and same south.

III a, b, c, d, e  
IV  
VII a, b, c, d, e

suhala'it, ni'swits, t'ɔ'mks, niɔs hāna'ax, waxa't, hatgɛpk, gamaye'm (Gwanhu't) gisgɔts, lɛ'is, wāt'iwɛlp, wige't was also gwunhu't from Alaska, same as hɛlɛ't.

Arthur Wellington Clark: House of suhala'it (b) hatgɛ'pk (c) wāt'iwɛlp; were from t'om lax'am; use the ga'o'a myth. They are of the same origin as tsyebɔsɛ' and others. They were not royal because they had not the wealth to command that position. He was not from any of the ten tom lax'am chiefs but had a separate house there. They must be closely connected with ga'o'a as they have the name of ga'o'a in this house as a woman's name, and in this house alone of all the t'om lax'am group. He has the same myth as the royal chiefs.

[Clark's wife:] But from t'om lax'am they became gitksɔdzɔ'x in the Nass (klo'soms) (not far from saltwater). He is a gitksɔdzɔ'x; originally suhala'it and wige't came from t'om lax'am and became gitksɔdzɔ'. These were huge people... Mrs W. says they use the name of ga'o'a and the myth to show they originate from the sky.

The myth of ga'o'a belongs only to 3 houses she knows of

(a) suhala'it and wige't	all have same coasts in common
(b) gispa'qu'lt (of Nass, gitkwonsetk)	

Sheppard:

(1) wi'geit } listed as the only two gitksadz houses  
(2) subalait }  
"different from gitomtax'am"

M. Johnson: of Mege origin, gitksadz

VII

House of wi'geit

(gispawudwada)

: gitksadz

Johnson: a weket of subalait, gitksadz

Wellington:

wiget was the leader of the two houses of his and of subalait. They came originally from Tomtax'am and went to ksadz and were wisge'

Always a separate house from subalait. Subalait used their names only after house extinct.

Wellington: "His origin is somewhere on the plateau on the headwaters of the Skena. He came to the village of the Gitksan from further away inland. There are three different houses of wiget; wiget gaspaxlots, a wiget on the Pass, and one Gitksan; all have the same myth of origin. They ~~found~~ <sup>joined</sup> the tomtax'am group, when came. Never ~~found~~ <sup>joined</sup> the gitksadz. No close relatives here at all. They have now amalgamated with house of subalait, for lack of numbers, now extinct. Their name crest before joining the tomtax'am was the modisk. He took the modisk after have joined the tomtax'am. Don't know whether he had the crest before.

VIII House of niəs'awē'lp

(laxsk'i'k)

has heard they were gwunhwt, having accompanied the royal chiefs.

Wellington: sub: (a)

(b) n'lw'ə'ə'lx

(c) t'u'ə'tskamal'a'ō

Oryen: laxsk'ieh from t'əm laxam They came from t'əmlaxam with the original g'ispaxl'ə'ts.

Crests (1) sk'ik

(2) txa'ō

(3) hatsalt

(4) stszl

(5) gwusq'ō'le

IX  
II House of apoxs (laxskiak)

: original gispaxlts not gwunhuit. Crests (a) xskiak  
(b) s'tsɔ:l

Wellington: (a) (b) ä'lo'ɔ'lɔms  
(c) wi'tɔkwa'

Oregon: laxskiak gwunhuit (from Alaska,  
came together with niswamak) have the same  
myth.

Wellington came with niswamak although not closely related  
to him. The subdws. have same names.



X  
VII House of gamayε'm

(gispawudwada)

g. amayε'm and t'samks, t'amlaham gispawudwada.  
Use the ga'o'a myth but are of the lekakyet class.  
Came at same time as royal.

Wellington: from t'amlax'am originally; from there went to  
Alaska and became the gwunhiet, and then joined  
gispaxlɔ'ts. But these did not go to gitksodzo as the  
subalait group did, but went through to the  
Skuna and then joined the gispaxlɔ'ts. Not of the  
same family as subalait (not wε'kε't) but of  
the same gwunhiet group of gispawudwade.

Bro. Wellington says that these people did not have  
the 'next as crest in former times, as they were from  
temlaxam. The main crest of the subalait group  
only was the hε'st as well as of all the  
gitksodzo people of the Nass now. The madiak  
was the main crest of gamayεm gwunhiet groups  
who did not have the hε'st at all.

sub. (a) (b) t'samtk (c) |ε'is  
(d) niʔshāna'ax

They were all from the house of gamayεm originally.  
They were t'amlaxam but not royal chiefs there;  
the ga'o'a myth is not used by this house. Not  
related to the house of subalait exc that they  
were gispawudwada.

Mr Johnson: original gispaxlɔ'ts gisp, more closely connected  
with the t'amlaham group than any other.

Wallace t'samtk uses grouse (maxmε'x) crest, revealing  
his interior origin

Wellington: In telling their origin they only mention the fact they are  
from t'amlaham, and no more. Another subdw. (e) gisqɔ's

I gamayim

(gispowidwa'ds)

Jas. Wright to Beaman 1915.

Re Galkorati coat of  
royal trump.

The gispowidwa's people in the houses of wiat'at's  
and gisp'at's were a branch of the royal gisp  
being descendants of the houses of al'at'at'e, tsibasa'  
and gisp'at's, but have become extinct, and their  
names have descended to the tsibaz'at class  
(who) have not the power to take the galkorati and  
use it.

[I.  
gisp'at's]