

## Origins of git'and>

gispaxl'sts gitwilksabe :

- (A) (i) Sgagwe't (laxskis)
- (ii) giste'ku (laxskis)
- (iii) laxs ("")
- (iv) gaye'lowsx (ganhada)
- (v) nist'satlwano's (ganhada)
- (vi) q̄s (gispaw.)
- (vii) halz̄p (gispew)

gispaxw : (all gispaw)

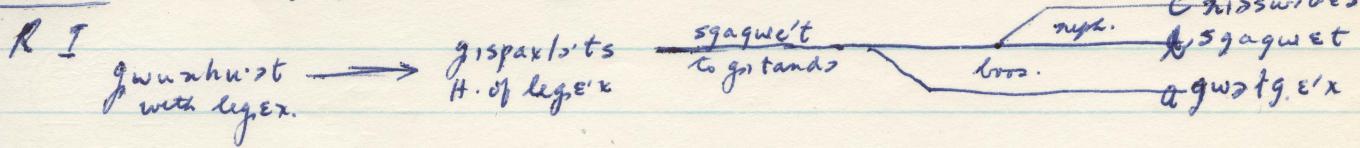
- (B) 1. ge'stuk was som̄iget (gispawudwadz)
- 2. gasye'tk a lakaget under? (gispawudwadz)
- 3. nasyayiyunet (ganhadas) som̄iget of gandada.
- 4. txatkwestk as from 1st samecoast & myth gandada
- 5. Paxlitkwa under but end of house. gandada

gitwilgaxsu : (all gispaw)

In early times (A) the gitwilksabe, were subjects of legex of the gispaxl'sts, who treated them badly. The (B) group existed at the 2 named places (just gispaw and ganhada) under royal ge'stuk. (also subject to legex?) (A) broke away and came and joined (B) and they formed the git'and>. Sgagwe't became royal chef instead of ge'stuk.

git'ands origin (summary)

Laxsk'ik': I (royal) II III XI

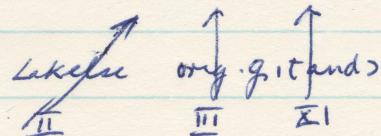


II witsxto: org. git'ands (klar kels) - broke away from  
wesma'a'ol dur of witsq'andzis house there

III griste'ku - prob. org. git'ands.

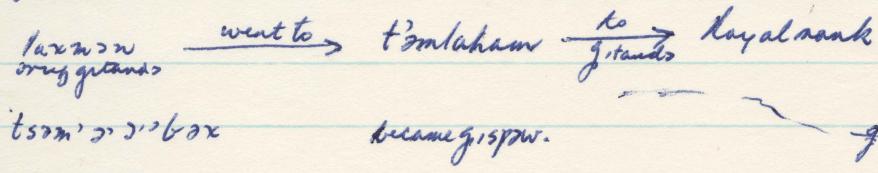
XI laxs - org. git'ands separate from III.

Burundut. sgagwe't → Royal

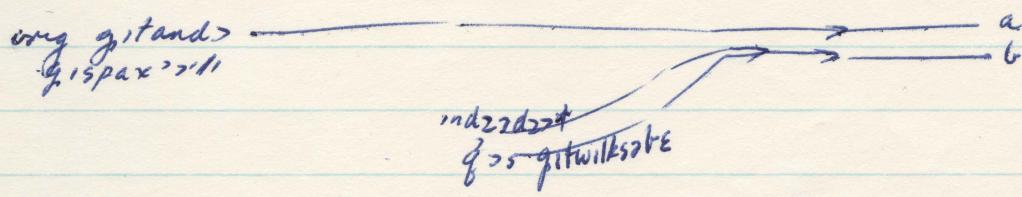


gispwudwa'ds I IX

I ge'stjk



IX gasyetk



ganh'a'ds IV V VI VII VIII

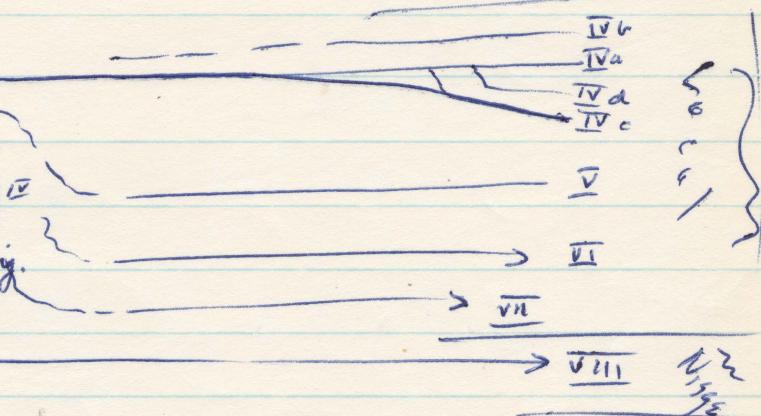
IV nisyayiqunet old git'ands

V g.ay'e'lowlax from or close rel. II

VI laxlitkwa divergent view: diff loc. orig.

VII nist'sekewano's

XIII txatkwe'tk



Laxsk'ik': No Lax kibu.

Taxskik history

A. Wellington 1915

git'ands.

git'ands' sg.agwe't : was a boy's name in house of legex. He was a son of a woman of this house and a gatsi'as man. He was appointed as royal chief (thus first) when the Tsimshian moved permanently to Port Simpson.

Danger of  
git'ands'

At one time there were three tribes of which legex was recognized as chief : git'ands, gitwilksabe', and gispaxlits. The git'ands' were formerly a branch of the gispaxlits, and split off from them

legex's sister was going downriver to trade, when her canoe upset, and most of the people with her were lost. legex was angry at people in the village who had refused to accompany his sister, and he chased them from the village. They started a village of their own, about 4 houses, a mile downriver. Having no tools to build houses with, they took the gitksan people's weirs (dɔ:) and made houses of them, so became known as git'ands' "people of the weirs".

They appointed as chiefs ge'a.tuk and ni.syagayunet. They multiplied. Later they took as royal chief gwälxex (gwankut taxskik, wékst of legex) and the successive chiefs of this house were gwälxex, txa-ts'i'yusk, ni.swi'hask, and txa.lax'a.tk.

When this royal house became extinct they took sgagwe't from the house of legex and elevated him to be their royal chief.

git'ands'. origins

I House of sgagwe't (laxstik)

Wallace: were all from qispaxlts origin, from house of legex

MacKaye: 1. K'walgex was the first royal chief 2. sgagwe't  
3. nis'wibes, royal, independent house,  
subdw. of house of sgagwe't.

qwalgex and sgagwe'ts were brothers; they separated  
when they were wealthy and were about to have  
separate houses. They were of one origin. nis'wibes  
was a nephew of sgagwe't, came out of his house and  
formed an independent house.

Ross: House of gwatqex [The present nishot is supposed  
to be a son of gwatqex]. According to Mrs Ross, the house  
of sgagwe'ts is the older house. Is a branch of sgagwe't.  
Have the same myth of origin, they are gwauhu't, the  
same as legex. They are we'kst (or blood relatives)  
all three: legex, gwatqex, sgagwe't) Before  
ge'tuk was the head of git'ands.

gwatqex used the same names in common with  
house of sgagwe't. Almost extinct, only one left now  
(adopted from Mr Budward)

See under ge'tuk for story of how sgagwe't got  
chiefmanship.

Why sgagwe't had no territory Jos Morrison.

ge'tuk was chief. git'ands and qispaxlts lived  
close and visited for gambling. sgagwe't (or a nephew of  
royal house of qispaxlts) sneaked in and slept with  
ge'tuk's young sister. ge'tuk, angered, wanted to kill him.  
With qisteku as intermediary, the qispaxlts gave  
sgagwe't an emhalit, sgagwe't married ge'tuk's sister  
and lived with git'ands. When ge'tuk's house ran out  
of male successors, the sister's husband was established  
as chief and granted the privilege of using any git'ands  
territory but did not give him ownership of any.

## I House of ge'stuk

(gispawudwa'ds)

Wallace: original gitands' The gitands' were always connected with gispa'x1'sts, but had their own chiefs who were under the chief of the gispa'x1sts. ge'stuk and gamayem were their chiefs, gamayem was a nickname taken by house of ge'stuk; the : name was taken from gitxata royal house of tsye base'. ge'stuk was of the laxmən group and used as a crest madiegon dzag'maks. The main crest of the laxmən group was 'next' and next the madiegon dz - - aks.

McKays. ge'stuk former leader of the gitands' was of royal rank in former days; but no longer. ge'stuk lost his rank voluntarily or gave it away, and gave it to the house of sagewet when he married into that house. And he assumed the rank of chief lek a'get.

: gamayem, endep. house; was not a subdw of ge'stuk. Same origin as ge'o'tuk. gamayem and ge'o'tuk were the former original? gitands' They think they were from t'mlax'am, not myth of gao'a, not gitksandzax. They came from a place on the Skeena called tsam'z's'bzx village on bank of river on stupover bank

In ancient times that. Not the same myth as the gitodzay gamayem had come out originally of ge'stuk house.

(There was a group of qispewud. on the Skeena termed gispa'x1's)

Bradley: ge'o'tuk; originally came to t'mlax'am from down the Skeena, they went up the river to t'mlax'am and became a qispewudwada. He was not a qisp. before hand. He does not know what he was before. He then became associated with tsye base'. After that he was always associated with t'mlax'am. ge'o'tuk from that time assumed the chieftainship of the gitands people but after gave up his rank voluntarily, and after having brought this gamayem name from t'mlax'am. He also

\* two independent houses, were not closely related. The gamayem here was not a desc.  
of the original gamayem, but the name was given to them and privileged to use it.  
But these people (were) entirely of a different origin.

(brought) courts from Comlaxam with him. (hostile)

: gestuk of the gitands. Does not know what was  
his origin, but went to Comlaxam and assumed the  
name of gamayem.

Johnson : origin : relative of Li'mtak, shares his myth  
and names.

Mckays : gamayem was not his real blood relative.  
he had only gone with his house when ge'stuk had  
dropped his royal rank. It came about by marriage,  
the amalgamation of these houses, they think. To  
begin with they were two independent houses. Origin?  
Ancient gitands:

Ross : ge'stuk (Ia) subdiv. only lately when school  
started here, not formerly subdivided. Subdivs:  
2 gestuk 2 gamayem  
Gamayem house uses same names.

Tradition of change of royal house:

"ge'stuk had a beautiful young niece.  
hadzksne'x heard of her beauty, and he left his  
village on the Skuna to the place where gestuk lived to  
gamble. And he came to his house and said he wanted to  
gamble. At night he went to the young woman and laid  
with her, and in the morning gestuk saw them, and pronounced  
them married, and put robes on his back and presented him  
with valuable furs. And ge'stuk took his se'sa (chief  
rattle) and gave it to her, and took off the chief  
robe he wore, and his headdress, and put it on  
hadzksne'x and said "you will become chief now"  
And from that time on they lost their royal standing  
because they had given it away. hadzksnexs was an  
Eagle, a nephew of sgagwe't. sgagwe't was of royal  
family then, but was not recognized as head of the  
gitands until that event.

## ge'tuk (cont'd)

Wellington      q̥ε'tuk was of the q̥ispanl̥ts village before  
the gitands' came into existence. He was of the  
q̥itwilg.a'x̥s̥, a q̥isp. [village?] of graveyard  
point. This was a different origin from Tax̥m̥n &  
T̥nlaham, he belonged to the group named  
tagig̥ni "further up the river" n̥islu.t and  
w̥ines (ginadocks) were not Tax̥m̥n, T̥nlaham,  
or tagig̥ni either. Their name was q̥ina'd̥iks,  
a little below tagig̥ni.

## II House of n̄isx̄t̄s

(lax̄sk̄išk̄)

Wallace: from q̄lodz̄ay house of n̄isx̄t̄s

Johnson: from q̄lodz̄ay

McKaya, relatives: n̄isx̄ma'a'ol (lax̄sk̄. q̄lodz̄ay) They  
use the same crest (not sure). n̄isx̄t̄s descendant  
from n̄isx̄ ma'a'ol house

Mrs Ross: These people are from q̄lax̄k̄e's. (Sk̄ena  
l) They have a myth in common with n̄isq̄amdz̄is (q̄lodz̄ay) and x̄iyop (ḡispax̄l̄ts)

Matthew Johnson: q̄lodz̄ay origin from Klax̄k̄e's, from house  
of n̄isx̄ma'a'ol, which was a subdivision of  
n̄isq̄amdz̄is. The origin of mesq̄amdz̄is: of Klax̄k̄e's,  
one of original q̄lodz̄ay. Not of gwash̄it stock

[long myth of n̄isq̄amdz̄is - localized at Lakelee  
Lake, telling how he gave up chieftainship to  
n̄isx̄ma'a'ol but retained territories. A crest of  
beaver went to 3 houses: n̄isx̄ma'a'ol, n̄isx̄t̄s,  
and n̄isq̄amdz̄is]

"as to n̄isx̄t̄s, he left after this, ashamed of  
being defeated. This is the reason why he left the  
tribe.

- n̄isq̄amdz̄is, n̄isx̄t̄s, and x̄iyop were originally one house.

Territory File: Morrison.

This house originally was connected with  
n̄isq̄amdz̄is, q̄lodz̄au. An open breach arose over a  
woman of the house, and n̄isx̄t̄s moved to his  
wife's people, the q̄l̄bands. He was given a territory.  
This house still admits its q̄lodz̄au <sup>connections</sup> relations; it  
contributes to the royal house's festivities and picks  
its wives among the q̄lodz̄au women.

### III House of g̑istek̑u

(lax̑sk̑ik̑)

Wallace: original git̑andz̑. No close relatives. The g̑ispax̑ts absorbed most of the git̑w̑, lks̑b̑e, he says, but does not know that g̑istek̑u belongs to them.

McKays origins?

Subder: (1) (2) g̑ilaske'meyam  
they were close relatives, have same myth.

Johnson: subdr: 1 g̑istek̑u 2 g̑ilek̑emay  
3 n̑u'. 2 · 1x (g̑ipego m̑tkwa was in this group)

Hoss: not subdivided.

: they have a myth of their own. Thinks they are connected with gwunhuit in some way.

: g̑ilaske'meyam descendant of house of g̑istek̑u but have always been 2 separate houses.

Name list separate, but child names in common.

Johnson: not of the gwunhuit but of the git̑w̑, lks̑b̑e' g̑ispax̑ts

IV House of n̄is̄yayiyan̄et : (ḡanhads)

Wallace:

have the same myth as t̄ḡom̄, and have the same crest of q̄ayl̄t̄ and same names. He does not know of their having been from the ḡispax̄it̄s at any time. Always heard of them being ḡ.t̄ands.

- McKays: (a) n̄is̄yayiyan̄et - he was one of the old ḡanhads ḡ.t̄ands' group which lived on a tributary of the Skuna called k̄st̄u's (property of the ḡanhads) and used only by the ḡanhads ḡ.t̄ands'.  
(b) house of ḡ.aḡa'k̄t̄ik̄ - in former times was a subdiv. of (a)  
(c) house of ḡ.amksa'ḡe'k̄ not a subdiv. of (a) but belonged to same group, same myth and crest  
(d) tsayamḡishe'it̄ks - originally from the house of (a); only lately formed a separate house.

: n̄is̄yayiyan̄et and tsayamḡishe'it̄ks were l̄spw̄e'k̄t (close blood relatives). ḡ.aga'skt̄k at one time was the leader of this group. Mrs. became head this way: All the male members of the group under the chieftainship of ḡ.aḡa'k̄t̄ik̄ became wiped out, and only n̄is̄yayiyan̄et was left, who was then a small baby. When he grew he assumed the chieftainship of the group.

: n̄is̄yayiyan̄et was once recognized chief of the ḡ.t̄ands, ḡanhads; was not royal for that. He has still a great deal to say about the government of the ḡ.t̄ands.

Ross. ḡ.amksa'ḡe'k̄ - subdiv. of IV, separated long ago

V House of g.a.ye'.lowx (ganhadz)

Engens.

Wallace: same group as (IV) nisstyay, yu.net; originated from its house; and the same with lax/i'-tkwa and niss t's et lowanox's; they were of the same group and from the house of nisstyay, yu.net.

McKays: they seem always to have been independent house; although belonged to same group as nisstyay, yu.net.

Not subdivided, now extinct, no more same myth as nisstyay.

Johnson: She has heard he was from nisstyay, yu.net; and they had the same grandmother.

Ross: g.a.ye'.lqw>x another subdiv of house of  
IV. long ago. Many same names.

VI House of Taxlitkwa (g. anhads)

Wallace: -

McKays: - had a different origin [from two above?]; originated from the Ox tail river, from the gitzaxtet, house of n̄̄sk̄iwe or gam dzo:p. He was their close relative. Extinct.

The Taxlitkwa name was assumed by a man of a different crest. Albert Wesley, and was assumed by his son to perpetuate the name (Taxstick, ḡspaxbt̄s)

Johnson: originated from n̄̄syayayunet house. Not of gitzaxtet origin, that she knows

Ross: a subdw of house of n̄̄syayayunet. Has same names and crests in common. Subdw. long ago.

From territories file.

This house was originally a branch of n̄̄sk̄iwe, gitzaxtet on the k̄sto:l. An invasion of ḡidaganits caused him to flee and he came to the q̄itands village of k̄sto:s to his wife's bro. hal:p (ḡsp. XI), using his territories as guest, still regarded as a gitzaxtet. The male line of n̄̄syayayunet was down to one small boy. Taxlitkwa supplied the elk skin to claim his body. In compensation the head woman of n̄̄s. gave him a territory at the head of the river (10). He declared himself a q̄itands and stayed.

VII House of nisst'satlewano's (ganhads)

Mckays: same origin as nissayayu'et and have same myth; independent standing, not subdiv., extinct.

Johnson: were a very small house. Same group <sup>& crests</sup> as nissayayu'et but independent.

Loss: subdivision of house of nissayayu'et in former times. Use names in common w. Ts.

VIII House of txatkwet'tk

(ganhads)

Wallace: of nisq'e orogen from village of gwunwos'x  
He killed the g̲ispwadwads chief sispaqu't and  
for this reason left the Nass and came and lived  
with the g̲it'ands.

Johnson: a subdw of house of nisst'se te wano's.

— 3: independent house of nisq'e orogen no  
close relatives here

## House of ḡasye'tk

(ḡisp̄wud wa'ds)

Wallace: local gitands'. This village was called  
gitwi'gaxsu'  
where middle of river  
on the centre of the river k̄s̄k̄sȳ'nks Shamus R.

Mckays: of the ḡisp̄ax's'l group. (Subdu)  
(a) (b) q̄s - this house of q̄s came from  
the extinct gitwi'ks̄be' and was adopted by  
ḡasye't. They had a different origin

Bradley: He does not come from t̄m̄tax̄am at all.  
He lived at the ancient place of the gitands on the  
Akuna. The gitands were formerly an independent  
race; they were not an issue of the ḡisp̄ax's'lts.  
The ḡisp̄ax's'l were a very small tribe, which amalgamated  
with different other tribes. The 4 crests were  
represented (in) this tribe.

hal̄o:p̄ is an old tribe of the gitands not related  
to ḡasye't.

ḡasye't is a branch of the gamaȳem gitands  
not the t̄m̄tax̄am.

Wallace: q̄s was gitwi'ks̄be, came directly to the gitands.  
In former days one of the gitwi'ks̄be chiefs was a relative  
of leḡx, who eventually became hadzak̄s̄n̄x  
who became chief of the gitands. When he did, most  
of his people followed him in the gitands tribe.

q̄s z̄ndz̄d̄z̄'t (ḡisp̄ud.) became amalgamated with  
ḡasye't. They were blood relatives, two independent  
gitwi'ks̄be houses. No others went to the gitands, the  
others joined the ḡlodz̄ay.

Johnson: q̄s was of gitwi'ks̄be, ḡisp̄ud, ḡlodza in origin

gasy<sup>e</sup>tk (contd)

M. Johnson "The term g<sub>1</sub>spax<sup>>1</sup> applied to the group of  
g<sub>1</sub>asyt and g<sup>>1</sup>s but not to hal<sup>1</sup>sp.

## XI House of Taxs (Taxskidk)

Wallace: original gitand>, not gitwilkszbe', not related to giste'ku

McKays: former gitand> not a subdw of giste'ku.  
has own myth and coast

Ross: not subdw. Taxsand giste'ku have always been  
2 houses

## X. House of hal'sip

(gispawadwa'ds)

Wallace: from house of n̄̄s̄n̄s̄ which was the former head name of this house; are of t̄m̄t̄m̄ origin. They use the same myth as the royal chiefs, but they always remained of the lekakw̄st̄, they never were of higher rank.

McKays: of ḡspax̄/group, not a subdiv. of X with s̄l̄o-q̄a'̄t̄n̄m̄s̄ --'s house.

Subdiv.: (a) hal'sip (b) t̄k̄w̄it̄iȳt̄

Johnson: same myth and origin as l̄p̄l̄d̄inst̄

Ross: House of s̄l̄o-q̄a'̄t̄z̄, hal'sip was not an independent house.  
(Same house, different name?)

Matthew Johnson: He claims relationship to the nagunaks, as if he were descended from them. His crests:

ḡ.ād̄m̄n̄ēx̄t̄

se't̄m̄ h̄agw̄l̄s̄x̄ (spoon)

4 layer l̄an̄m̄ḡ.ait̄

Origin of gít'ands'

Informant Sam Lewis. giving origin of house of  
dzáyam gísha'itks [xit] gánha'da of gítxata.

In former days the gít'ands people were more like the servants of the gíspax̑bts, and when Tege'x became chief after nísswamak he even made slaves of them. Wherever he went he always took the gít'ands people with him. The gít'ands at that time had getuk gísp. as chief and he was not a big chief, not recognized as chief by the whole people. After Tege'x had been defeated in war by the git'sikas, the gít'ands took a royal chief from the gíspax̑bts and he was gutxex of the house of nísswamak, laxskik and he was made chief of the gít'ands. Then they started down the river and they made a new village which was known as gíspax̑s'. Some of the people went away, including the members of this dzáyam gísha'itks house of gít'ands and they came down farther until they reached salt water and at Metlakatla they found the village of gítxata and here they settled. They took the name dzáyam gísha'itks as their chief's name. They have no other foreign relatives in any other tribe and are nearly extinct in the gítxata tribe.

[sic?] : "When the gít'ands separated from

the gíspax̑bts some people stayed with the gít'ands, others went to other Tsimshian tribes, and this one came to gítxata and became the biget house of this tribe. After Tege'x had been defeated by the git'sikas, the gít'ands who had as their chief getuk gísp. and the people under the chieftain gutxex laxskik separated and started the gít'ands people and made a village known as gíspax̑s', and when they got there they fought among themselves over hunting privileges and then dzáyam gísha'itks nephew dzáyam iyel yelk went away taking his sisters and bros. until they came to where the gítxata were living, became members of the tribe. As (older) uncle with him, dzo-wit'aks. They started under houses.

much of extent?

[sic?]

Vol IV p 39, also Sam Lewis.