

ORIGIN OF WASHINGTON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

[Continued from Volume XII, page 136.]

POWAHKEE CREEK, a tributary of the Snake River, in the northern part of Asotin County, named for a Nez Perce Indian woman who took up a claim there. (Cliff M. Wilson, in *Names MSS.* Letter 240.)

POWOW CREEK, a tributary of the Columbia River, at Fruitland, in the southwestern part of Stevens County, shown on the maps as Alder Creek. The local name comes from the fact that Indians formerly held their councils or powwows there. (Mrs. Anna J. Thompson, postmistress at Fruitland, in *Names MSS.* Letter 128.) See Alder Creek and Fruitland.

PRAIRIE, a town in the northwestern part of Skagit County, named for its location.

PRAIRIE MOUNTAIN, east of Darrington in the northeastern part of Snohomish County, named because of the beautiful prairie at its base. (Charles E. Moore, of Darrington, in *Names MSS.* Letter 193.)

PRATT, see Denison.

PRESCOTT, a town in the central part of Walla Walla County, named in 1881 in honor of C. H. Prescott, General Superintendent of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company. At that time the company made Prescott a railway division with machine shops, etc., which were soon afterward moved to Starbuck. (R. B. Smith, in *Names Mss.* Letter 480.) The town of Prescott was platted May 12, 1882; by the Oregon Improvement Company. (*Illustrated History of Southeastern Washington*, page 166.) The first settlement on the site was by Rev. H. H. Spalding in 1859. (*History of Walla Walla County*, page 143.) Great trouble with freights was caused by the same name being given to a water-tank station on the tide flats at Tacoma. It required seventeen years (1893 to 1910) of complaints and correspondence to change the name of the water-tank station. (*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*. February 23, 1910.)

PRESIDENT CHANNEL, between Waldron and Orcas Islands, in the northern part of San Juan County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, named San Juan Island "Rodgers Island" in honor of John Rodgers, Captain of the United States frigate *President*, who en-

countered the British *Little Belt* just before the War of 1812 and later fired the first shot in that war. To intensify the honor, the waterway east of "Rodgers Island" was named "Presidents Passage" and the south entrance was named "Little Belt Passage". (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 77.) Captains Kellett, 1847, and Richards, 1858-1859, restored Spanish names to the Islands and named the "President's Passage", "Middle Channel" and the waterway between Waldron and Orcas Islands was named "Douglas Channel". (British Admiralty Chart 2689.) This honor was for Sir James Douglas, at that time Governor and Commander-in-chief of Vancouver Island. (John T. Walbran, *British Columbia Coast Names*, page 149.) The United States Coast and Geodetic Survey has changed the "Middle Channel" to San Juan Channel and the "Douglas Channel" to President Channel, thus restoring part of the older Wilkes name. (Chart 6300.)

PRESIDENT POINT, on the western shore of Puget Sound, in the northwestern part of Kitsap County. A few miles to the southward, The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, had honored three former presidents by naming Point Jefferson, Point Monroe and Port Madison. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 88.) This fact evidently caused the United States Coast Survey to name President Point in 1856. (George Davidson, *Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 603.)

PRESENTIN CREEK, a tributary of the Skagit River, in the central part of Skagit County. It was named for Charles von Presentin, who located a home there in 1878. (Postmaster of Birdsvew, in *Names MSS.* Letter 130.)

PRESTON, a town in the central part of King County, near Issaquah. It was named in 1888 in honor of William T. Preston, who was associated with D. H. Gilman and others in building the Seattle Lake Shore and Eastern Railway, which later became a branch of the Northern Pacific Railway. In early days supplies were shipped on horseback from Preston to the prospecting camps of the Seattle Coal and Iron Company. On January 13, 1893, a commission was issued to J. F. Hudson as Postmaster of Preston. J. F. Hudson, in *Names MSS.* Letter 451.)

PRESTON POINT, in Everett, the southern point at the mouth of the Snohomish River. The Indian name for the point is *Hay-boh-ub*. (Charles M. Buchanan, in *Names MSS.* Letter 155.)

PREVOST HARBOR, on Stuart Island in the northern part of San Juan County. It was named by Captain Richards of H. M.S. *Plum-*

per in 1859, in honor of Captain James Charles Prevost of H. M. S. *Satellite*. See also Charles Point and James Island. For a biography of Prevost see Captain John T. Walbran's *British Columbia Coast Names*, page 400.

PRICE'S VALLEY, see Fruitland.

PRIEST POINT, opposite Everett at the north entrance to the Snohomish River. As seen from Puget Sound, it is a rocky promontory. The Indian name is *Schuh-tlahks*, meaning stony nose. (Charles M. Buchanan, in *Names MSS.* Letter 155.) The present name relates to the work of Father Chirouse at Tulalip.

PRIEST POINT, on the east shore of Budd Inlet, near Olympia. The name originated from the early missionary donation claim of Father Pascal Ricard. Through the efforts of Elias J. Payne, thirty acres were secured for a city park, which is called Priest Point Park. (Elias J. Payne, in *Names MSS.* Letter 53.)

PRIEST RAPIDS, in the Columbia River southwest of Grant County. Alexander Ross, of the Astoria party, writing in 1811, said: "Here a large concourse of Indians met us, and after several friendly harangues, commenced the usual ceremony of smoking the pipe of peace: after which they passed the night in dancing and singing. The person who stood foremost in all these introductory ceremonies, was a tall meagre, middle-aged Indian, who attached himself very closely to us, from the first moment we saw him. He was called Ha-que-laugh, which signifies doctor, or rather priest, * * * *. We named the place 'Priest Rapids' after him." (*Oregon Settlers*, Early Western Travels edition, pages 143-144.) The name was charted by David Thompson and appears in the writings of the early travelers as well as on recent maps.

PRINDLE, a town on the Columbia River, in the southwestern part of Skamania County. The place was formerly called Cruzatt in honor of Peter Cruzatte of the Lewis and Clark expedition, by which Wind River had been named "Cruzatte River" in 1805. The Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway Company changed the name of the station to honor Ernest Hinsdale Prindle, a pioneer land owner there. (L. C. Gilman, in *Names MSS.* Letter 590.) The first Prindle known in America was at New Milford, Connecticut, in 1654. There were 31 of the names of Prindle or Pringle in the Revolutionary War. (E. H. Prindle, in *Names MSS.* Letter 387.)

PROEBSTEL, a town in the southern part of Clarke County named in honor of John Proebstel, a pioneer in that district. (Chauncey Price, of Sifton, in *Names MSS.* Letter 181.)

PROSSER, county seat of Benton County, named in honor of William Farrand Prosser, early homesteader there. He was a prominent citizen of the Territory and State of Washington, who died in Seattle on September 23, 1911, aged 77 years. The place was long known as Yakima Falls. (Robert M. Graham, of Mabton, in *Names Mss.* Letter 297.) It was also known as Lone Tree, the first postoffice being called by that name. (W. M. Scott, of Kiona, in *Names MSS.* Letter 586.)

PROTECTION ISLAND, off the entrance to Port Discovery, in the northwestern part of Jefferson County. On May 2, 1792, while describing Port Discovery, Captain George Vancouver wrote: "Had this insular production of nature been designed by the most able engineer, it could not have been placed more happily for the protection of the port, not only from the N. W. winds to the violence of which it would otherwise be greatly exposed, but against all attempts of an enemy, when properly fortified; and hence I called it Protection Island." (*Voyage of Discovery Round the World*, second edition, Volume II., page 67.) Manuel Quimper called it "Isla de Carrasco" probably after his Pilot's Mate, Don Juan Carrasco. Other Spaniards used the same name. (Charts reproduced in *United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 1557.) The Indian name is reported as *Chachanucuh*. (*Pacific Railroad Reports*, Volume XII., Part I., chapter XV., page 280.)

PTEHNUM RIVER, see Manastash Creek.

PUAK-OOKE, an Indian name for Mount Rainier. (J. A. Costello, *The Siwash*, Seattle, 1895.)

PUERTO DE ALAVA, see Cape Alava.

PUERTO DE LOS ANGELES, see Port Angeles.

PUERTO DE LA BODEGA Y QUADRA, see Port Discovery.

PUERTO DE GRAY, see Grays Harbor.

PUERTO DE NUESTRA DE LOS ANGELES, see Port Angeles.

PUERTO DE NUNEZ, see Neah Bay.

PUERTO DE QUADRA, see Port Discovery.

PUERTO DE QUIMPER, see New Dungeness Bay.

PUFFIN DEL SOCORRO, see Chuckanut Bay.

PUFFIN ISLAND, one of the Matia Islands in the northeastern part of San Juan County. It was named from the tufted puffins

nesting there. (British Admiralty Chart 2689, Richards, 1858-1859.) The United States Coast Survey changed the name to "Matia East". (Captain George Davidson, *Pacific Coast Pilot*, page 569, note.) The United States Coast and Geodetic Survey has restored the name, Puffin Island. (Chart 6380.)

PUGALLUP, see Puyallup.

PUGET BAR, in the Columbia River between Puget and Tenas Illihee Islands, named for the larger island.

PUGET CITY, on Hogum Bay in the north central part of Thurston County, named from Puget Sound.

PUGET ISLAND, in the Columbia River, in the southeastern part of Wahkiakum County. It was named by Lieutenant W. R. Broughton on October 26, 1792, in honor of Lieutenant Peter Puget. (Captain George Vancouver, *Voyage of Discovery Round the World*, second edition, Volume III., page 95.) The Lewis and Clark expedition named it Sturgeon Island in 1805. (*Journals*, Thwaites edition, Volume III., page 206.)

PUGET SOUND, a name much extended beyond its original application. While anchored near Restoration Point, opposite the present City of Seattle, Captain Vancouver sent Lieutenant Peter Puget and Mr. Whidbey in the launch and cutter to explore the waters to the southward. They were to take the western passage. They started on Saturday, May 19, 1792. One week later, Captain Vancouver and Lieutenant Joseph Baker followed in the yawl, taking the eastern channel. Discovering the large island between the two channels, it was named Vashon Island. Both parties had returned to the ships by May 29, when the record shows: "Thus by our joint efforts, we had completely explored every turning of this extensive inlet; and to commemorate Mr. Puget's exertions, the south extremity of it I named Puget's Sound." (Captain George Vancouver, *Voyage of Discovery Round the World*, second edition, Volume II, page 146.) The chart in Vancouver's work shows the name to apply to the bays and inlets south of the present Tacoma and The Narrows. William A. Slacum, a purser in the United States Navy, was sent to the Pacific Northwest in 1836. In a memoir dated March 26, 1837, he refers to the "Straights of Juan de Fuca" and "Pugitt's Sound" thus extending the name so as to include Admiralty Inlet. (Document 24, in *United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 314.) The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, clung to Vancouver's purpose by applying the

name south of The Narrows. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 78.) An act of Congress approved February 14, 1851, established the Collection District of Puget Sound, giving legal authority for great inclusiveness as to the name. Captain George B. McClellan, in 1853, wrote: "I mean here, by Puget Sound, the sheet of water made up of the sound properly so called, Admiralty Inlet, Bellingham Bay, etc." (*Pacific Railroad Reports*. Volume I., chapter XVIII., page 183.) In 1857, James G. Swan uttered a complaint as follows: "A strange geographical error has gained credence in the commercial world of calling all the waters on the north of Washington Territory Puget Sound. This error has been principally caused by ignorant newspaper reporters, particularly those of San Francisco, who always report vessels arriving from any of the different harbors in Fuca Strait as from Puget Sound." (*The Northwest Coast*, page 119.) On August 7, 1859, General W. S. Harvey, United States Army, wrote to the senior officer of the United States Navy, commanding the squadron on the Pacific Coast: "I have the honor to enclose for your information a copy of a proclamation of Governor Douglas, the executive officer of her Britannic Majesty's Island of Vancouver, in Puget's Sound." (Document 10, page 20, in *United States Public Documents*, Serial Number 1027.) In 1866, the Washington Territorial Legislature adopted a memorial to Secretary of State Seward in regard to the San Juan Islands, "situated in the waters of Puget Sound." (Laws of Washington, 1866, page 225.) In Bellingham, May 1, 1913, Judge Ralston, of the Superior Court of Clallam County, rendered a decision holding that, for the purposes of the fishing laws, the Strait of Juan de Fuca is a part of Puget Sound. (*Seattle Times*, May 1, 1913.) The Indian name of Puget Sound is *Whulge*. (Theodore Winthrop, *The Canoe and the Saddle*, J. H. Williams edition, page 9.) For biographies see Edmond S. Meany's *Vancouver's Discovery of Puget Sound*, pages 148-152, and John T. Walbran's *British Columbia Coast Names*, pages 404-405.)

PUGET SOUND NAVAL STATION, see Navy Yard, Puget Sound.

PU-KAL-BUSH, an Indian name for Deschutes River at Tumwater. (J. A. Costello, *The Siwash*, Seattle, 1895.)

PUL-LE-LA, see Squaxin Island.

PULLMAN, a city in the southeastern part of Whitman County, home of the State College of Washington. The place was first named "Three Forks", being at the junction of three small streams.

The town adopted the new name in the hope that George M. Pullman, car manufacturer, would endow it, which hope was never realized. (Lou. E. Wenham in *Names Mss.* Letter 115.)

PUNTA DE LA BASTIDA, see Point Grenville.

PUNTA CAPEDA, see Point Roberts.

PUNTA DE HERRERA, see Eagle Point.

PUNTA DE HIFOSA, see Cape Alava.

PUNTA LOERA, see Sandy Point.

PUNTA DE LOS MARTIRES, see Point Grenville.

PUNTA DE MARTINEZ, see Cape Flattery.

PUNTA DE MENDEZ, see Point Partridge.

PUNTA DE RADA, see Koitlah Point.

PUNTA DE SALVI, see Observatory Point.

PUNTA DE SANTA CRUZ, see Dungeness Spit.

PUNTA DE SAN JUAN, see Clallam.

PUNTA DE SENOR JOSE, see Birch Point.

PUNTA DE SOLANO, see Point William.

PURDY, a town on Carr Inlet in the northwestern part of Pierce County, named for a pioneer grocer in Tacoma who furnished lumber for the first school house in the place. (Mary J. Goldman, of Wauna, in *Names Mss.* Letter 257.)

PUYALLUP, the name of a town in Pierce County, of a river which flows into Commencement Bay and a glacier on Mount Rainier where the river has its principle source. The Indian word has been variously spelled. (*Handbook of American Indians*, Part 2, page 331.) Two distinct meanings are given for the word. Elwood Evans in an address published in the *New Tacoma Ledger* of July 9, 1880, says the word means shadow from the dense shade of the forest. (Quoted by H. H. Bancroft: *History of Washington, Idaho and Montana*, Page 66.) Henry Sicade, an educated Indian says in the *Tacoma News* for June 30, 1916, that *Pough* means generous and *allup* means people and so his tribe were known as generous people. John Work, of the Hudson's Bay Company, in 1824 called it "Qualax River". (*Washington Historical Quarterly*, July, 1912, page 212.) The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, in naming and charting Commencement Bay indicated Puyallup River but seem to have spelled it "Pugallup." (Volume XXIII, *Hydrography*, page 319, and the atlas, chart 87.) The town's first postoffice was named "Franklin" which caused much difficulty on account of there being so many

postoffices by that name. Ezra Meeker says: "We agreed there never would be but one Puyallup." (*Pioneer Reminiscences*, page 182.)

PYRAMID BUTTE, see Steptoe Butte.

PYSHT RIVER, see Fish River.

Q.

QUADRA PORT, see Port Discovery.

QUAHT-SUM, see Cape Shoalwater.

QUAK, see Sidney.

QUALAM POINT, see Gordon Point.

QUALAX RIVER, see Puyallup.

QUALLA CREEK, see Squalicum Creek.

QUATERMASTER HARBOR, a bay between Vashon and Maury Islands, in the southwestern part of King County. The Wilkes Expedition, 1841, named many points in that vicinity for petty officers of the crews and then named the harbor as a fancied haven for their spirits. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 78.)

QUATSAP POINT, off the mouth of the Duckabush River, Hood Canal. The name is of Indian origin and was first used by the Wilkes Expedition, 1841. (*Hydrography*, Volume XXIII., Atlas, chart 78.)

QUEEN ANNE HILL, a much used local name in Seattle. About 1880, such citizens as C. B. Bagley, F. H. Osgood, A. B. Stewart, A. M. Brooks, G. G. Lyon, Sutcliffe Baxter, George H. Preston, D. N. Baxter and others built homes in the then prevailing Queen Anne style of architecture. Rev. Daniel Bagley jokingly asked folks if they were not "going out to Queen Anne Town." The name has persisted as to the hill, causing wonderment to new-comers. (C. B. Bagley, in *Names MSS.* Letter 284.)

QUEEN CITY OF THE SOUND, a pet name for Seattle.

[To be continued.]