

Origin of Washington Indian Names

Cathlapotle

Meaning "people of Lewis (Na'p!ōLx.) River." Lewis River was once known by the name of Cathlapotle.

Chehalis

Meaning "sand," the name derived originally, according to Gibbs (1877), from a village at the entrance of Grays Harbor.

Chelan

The name is derived from Chelan Lake. The name Chelan is shared not only by the lake above mentioned but by Chelan Falls, a range of mountains, a county, and two post villages, Chelan and Chelan Falls.

Chimakum

Also called: Aqokdlo, own name.

Clallam

Meaning "strong people."

Cowlitz

Also called: Nū-sō-lupsh, name given by Indians not on the Sound to Upper Cowlitz and Upper Chehalis.

Humptulips

Said to signify "chilly region."

Klickitat

From a Chinook term meaning "beyond" and having reference to the Cascade Mountains.

Kwaiailk

Also called: Kwū-teh-ni, Kwalhioqua name. Nū-sō-lupsh, by Sound Indians, referring to the rapids of their stream. Stak-ta-mish, a name for this and other inland tribes, meaning "forest people." Upper Chehalis, common name.

Location. On the upper course of Chehalis River.

Subdivisions and Villages Cloquallum, on Cloquallum River.

Kwalhioqua

From their Chinook designation, meaning "a lonely place in the woods."

Also called: Axwē'lāpc, "people of the Willapa," by the Chinook and Quinault Indians. Gilā'q!ulawas, from the name of the place where they usually lived.

Location. On the upper course of Willopah River, and the southern and western headwaters of the Chehalis.

Lummi

Also spelled Há-lum-mi, Nuh-lummi, and Qtlumi.

Makah

Meaning "cape people."

Muckleshoot

From the native word o'kelcul, significance unknown.

Nisqually

From Skwale'absh, the native name of Nisqually River. Also spelled Quallyamish, and Skwalliahmish.

Nooksack

Meaning "mountain men."

Pshwanwapam

Meaning "the stony ground." Also called Upper Yakima.

Puyallup

From Pwiya'lap, the native name of Puyallup River.

Sinkakaius

Meaning "between people."

Location. Between Columbia River and the Grand Coulee in the latitude of Waterville.

Snoqualmie

From the native word sdo'kwalbiuq^u.

Spokan

Phonetically Spōkē'.n or Spō.qē'in); said by some to signify "Sun people," though this origin is doubtful.

Squaxon

or Squakson. Their own name.

Location. On North Bay, Puget Sound.

Twana

Said to signify "a portage," referring to that between the upper end of Hoods Canal and the headwaters of Puget Sound.

Wallawalla

Meaning "little river"; called Walula by Spier (1936).

Wenatchee

(Wina't ca). So called by the Wasco, and it has become a popular name for them.

Yakima

Meaning "runaway."

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FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBES OF WASHINGTON STATE

