

Name _____

Totem Pole Virtual Gallery

Small Carved Totem Poles

Unfinished Pole, Alert Bay pole, Thunderbird

Why were small totem poles carved?

Large Carved Totem Poles

Look at the carving styles of the large poles and compare them with each other. Can you see the different figures and animals?

Tsimshian Pole Section

Collected from Kitsegukla, B.C. in 1953. Can you see the three figures? What do you think they represent?

Nuu-Chal-Nulth House Post

One of a set of 4 houseposts found at Ucluelet, B.C. This is the twin to another to figure made at the same time. Do you think that twins are an important symbol? Can you think of why?

Haida Mortuary Pole

Stood before Driving-A-Weasel-House at Ninstints before removal to the Royal British Columbia Museum in Victoria in 1957. Which animal do you think is represented here? How is this totem pole similar and different from the other culture's poles?

Bella Coola Mortuary Figure

Made at Talio, B.C. What do you think the figure symbolizes? What are the symbols on its hands? What do you think they represent?

Salish House Post

From house at Quamichan, B.C. How is this house post different in form from other house posts and totem poles? Look at the main figure of the person with wings. Do you think house post was carved after the arrival of European missionaries? What do you think the figure represents? What else might it represent?

Coast Salish Housepost

One of 5 houseposts which decorated the outside of a house at Quamichan. The figure holds a mink, a guardian spirit of certain Cowichan people..