

EXTINCT COMMUNITIES

Long before settlers of European origin arrived, the Makahs had villages from Cape Flattery to the Hoko River. The Klallams had settlements stretching from the Hoko River to Port Townsend and the present-day Port Gamble area. These villages were linked by traditions, marriage, ceremonies, and common access to the abundant food sources. Due to the devastation caused by smallpox epidemics and other diseases, entire villages were decimated. As the settlers arrived, the natives were further pushed out of their traditional lands. The 1855 treaties of Point No Point and Neah Bay ceded most of their land to the federal government, while restricting the tribes to smaller reservations. Settlers were slow to migrate to the area, until the 1880s, when the population of newcomers exploded. Soon after, Washington became a state in 1889.

Below (in red and red stars) are communities which were established in the late 1800s, but most would eventually disappear. Port Crescent was established in 1863. More information and photographs are available at the Salt Creek Recreation Area and Joyce Depot Museum. Only three towns exist today, but have since changed their names. Joe Town is now Joyce, named after Joseph M. Joyce in 1913. Photographs and more information are available at the Joyce Depot Museum. East Clallam changed its name in 1907 to Clallam Bay. In 1920, West Clallam officially changed to Sekiu. The three towns shown in black and with black stars are reference points.

These signs were designed and produced in a partnership between the Strait of Juan de Fuca Highway 112 Scenic Byway and the Clallam County Parks, Fair, and Facilities Department.

Twin



In 1890, the land between the two forks of the Twin River opened up to settlers. The community was known for its picnics, dances, and sports on the beach. During WWI, 200 soldiers-loggers made it the world's largest logging camp.

Pysht



In 1888, Merrill and Ring acquired the land and continues today to operate it as a tree farm. Before becoming a prosperous timber camp, the area boasted a general store, post office, and two hotels. Klallam tribal members had a village on Pillar Point.

Royal



Royal was a homesteading area from the late 1880s through 1930. A freight stage line was established from East Clallam to Royal to Ozette to Forks to Mora, with Royal as a stopover. The official post office was passed to various families in the area.

Ozette and Swan Bay

Up to 130 homestead families lived on Lake Ozette in the early 1890s. Schools, post offices, churches, and stores were present. At first, the only access was by boat to the mouth of the Ozette River or a 25 mile trail from Clallam Bay.



In 1926, a road was built and finally reached Ozette in 1935. Authority was given to add the Lake Ozette area for inclusion in the Olympic National Park in 1940. Electricity reached the area in the early 1960s.

Ramapo



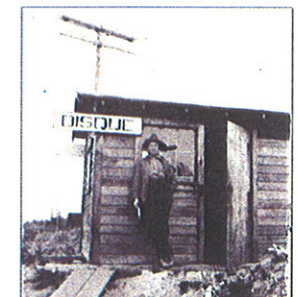
Ramapo, once known as Fintown due to the number of Finnish immigrants, got its name from an envelope on the postmaster's desk, addressed to Ramapo, New Jersey. The area had a school, post office, and general store where the upper floor was used for dances.

Gettysburg

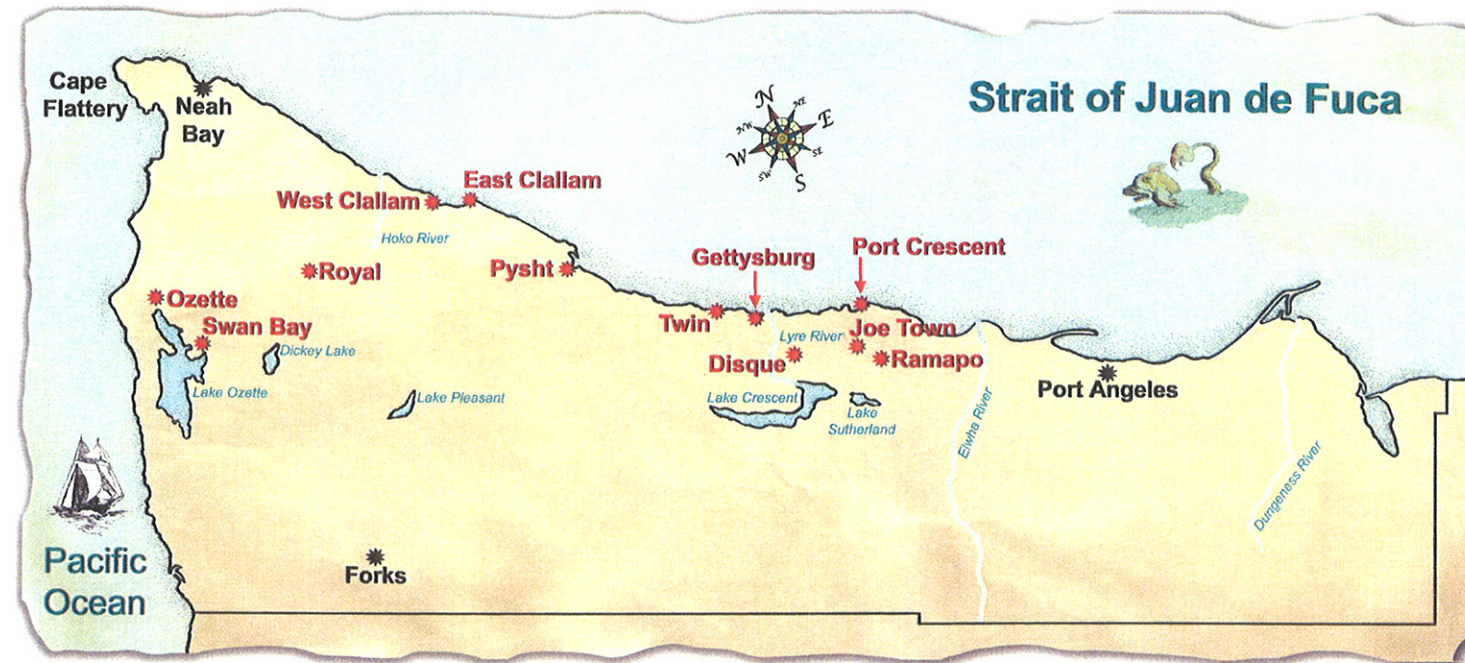


The town began in the 1880s and would eventually swell in size to 200 residents. Gettysburg had a hotel, store, warehouse, boathouse, school, and cemetery. A railroad was built about five miles south of the town in 1915. The post office closed in 1920.

Disque



Disque was a railroad cross-roads where trains coming from Port Angeles would continue westward or turn south towards Piedmont and Lake Crescent. The site was named after the U.S. Army's Spruce Division commanding officer, General Brice P. Disque.



Historical photos are courtesy of the Clallam County Historical Society and the Bert Kellogg Collection of the North Olympic Library System.