Map #6

Copied - from Frank Gates (Crescent City - 2000)

Names of the Tolowa Villages

~~Map "The Tolowa villages"~~

in the Tolowa and the Yurok

For the location of these villages, see map 5.

English name	Name in the Tolowa language	Name in the Yurok language
A (1-2) Siesta Peak ranch, at the mouth of Smith River	xaw-ín-wET	Hinéi
~~B (37) Bucket Ranch, in the cañon of Smith River~~	xatsa'-xotc'-ttme, "open-side below"	Mi-Tkv
C (42) (Above the Valley, on Smith River)	MinuTCEnTEn, "place the hill"	Logénol "fish-dam"
D (66) Youtucket ranch	Kjontakit, "high in the east"	Tolowv
F (73) Lake Earl ranch	E'tenlet, "land great upon"	E-L
E (72) A subset of the above-named town		
G (39) Point St. George Ranch	Tapi'a'te, "[illegible] canard"	Kuéwi, "extended"
H (144) Saddle Rock ranch	Sa'staso "spoon-water"	...
I (151) ...	Ta-t-n-t-n, ...	A'tägén
J (160) Pebble Beach ranch	MesLteLn, ...	Cäcoi
K (170) Crescent City ranch	Se'-nin-hat, "rock flat"	Kóbl
L (193) Another village, just inside the forest	Ta-ta'tEn, "in-a-corner place"	
M Mitchell Creek ranch	Ci-n-n'-t-i-ta-i	Me-Bel, "end of beach."
N South Fork ranch	NEmsO'tEn, "houses there"	

Names of mountains

The principal mountains are as follows: (see map 5)

1. The northern peak of what are called "Copper Mountains," E'tLkwaket, "rain on top."
2. An elevation known as "Bald Hill", near Murphy's ranch, MEn-t'utEn, "bare mountain." The people went here every spring to pick acorns.
3. A row of peaks called "Four Brothers" NEc xotinLte, "four sisters."
4. Bear Mountain (otherwise known as French Hill) Ci-n-te-vai, "hill big."
5. Preston Peak, GETLgist-lin, "hill..." There is said to be a lake at the summit

I have given elsewhere a list of Yurok towns. The Tolowa terms for these Yurok towns offer some points of interest, which I will point out in a moment.

List of Yurok towns, with the names applied to them by the Tolowa

Yurok names		Tolowa names
aigo'ʾo	"basket"	
olsepo'n	"where it is steep"	
loʾole'go	"where fish-weir they build"	
oslego'ito	"where it descends"	
osnemo'RL	"where it slides"	
weitspus	"confluence"	ltcoilɪntEn "confluence place"
pekʷ'tuL	"pile of rocks"	kwi'sEtesa'wɪt "middle ridge"
rlrgr		tʾoñcEn-niçʷtān, "nozzles, at end of something"
wa'ksek		xaitutuei'tEn "naming is forbidden place"
ge'nek		tonLtEn, "tearing place", [illegible]
toe'tokwi		
ge'nek-pul		
aukweya'		
nie'rip		
wa'kse	"pool"	nocusne'LtEn, "throwing in [illegible]"
ke'pel	"house-pit"	Esta'kɪt, "fish weir"
oa'a		
smirek	"cooking-basket" (?)	nonia'tEn, "end of a ridge"
ri'meL		
we'ʾgem		
no'xtskum		eç-teʾawɪ'stEn, "... foaming place"
ke'peror		meko'ntEn, "a certain species of vine"
meta'		
ke'ʾkem		
srego'n		xage-xanaLtli "new settlement"
yo'xtr		yicete'tEn, "hopper made of basketry"
pe'kwan		oaxo'tEn "stream place" (the town straddles a [illegible])
go'otep		xaiçnicût "small creek half-way"
kwo'xtek		
woxke'no	"laurel" (pepperwood)	
otoäL	"where it is sandy"	
te'kta		
stäpr		tʾuase'tEn, "big prairie on top."
äyoL		
nägil		
rsnr		se-ɛ'kwEt, "rock, village upon"
ho'wego		
sliken-peto		nucu-kwe'teʾEsxu "hiding a misdeed"
stowen		xakʷtitEn, "blue-berries"
tünip		
sä'äL	"invisible people"	teiûʾtLitEn, "invisible people"
trwr		
wo'ke'l	"pepperwood"	tʾoçcentEn "~~pepperwood~~ pepperwood place"
ho'ʾpa		tasniLtEn "stirring acorn-mush place"
re'kwi	"mouth of a stream"	tsteitEn, "steaming place"
tmr'i		kʾEsme "alders inside"
wil kwäʷ		kwEngEnme, "door, inside of"

tsékwcL		
o'men		tagɛtL tsaatEn, "the land opens inward"
o'men-hipur		tsɔdɛ-teit, "elbow-in" (i.e. "in an elbow")
o'segen		~~xɔsteit'En~~, xɔsteit', "breakers"
äspa'w	"drinking-place"	~~xɔsteit, "breakers"~~ tcɛ'tcEntEn,
otmekwo'R		
sigwets		
o'le'q'w		sus-nase'tEn, "wood drifting"
tsa'lpak'w		mEnyEttcu'tEn, "gravel"
hsgwi	"large"	
tsɔ'tsokwi		
oki'to	"lagoon"	tcEsLe'xtEn, "stillwater"
ke'tpem		
oslo'q'w		
pä'lär		
pinpa		
mä'äto		
tsuisai	"mountain"	ne'nIstEn, "smooth ocean"

Places other than towns, in the Yurok and Tolowa Languages.

Footsteps Rocks, north of Wilson Creek, tayene-ni'tEn, "going into water place." Women were compelled to disembark, on approaching these rocks, and to pass them on the inland side, over the trail.

False Klamath Rock (Yurok slrgr), wEtc'atagasni, "digging something." People used to go here to dig up edible roots, or "Indian potatoes." Berries were gathered here, too.

A place called by the Yurok tahtɔ'sitɔ, on the Lockwood place, where the trail to Regua from Wilson creeks climbs on top of a high hill, tcayatfiL, "wind taking off one's clothes." Legend says that the wind blew so hard here, once, that it blew a woman's dress off.

A ceremonial rock at Regua (called in Yurok Oregos), yaastikwEn, "where they customarily land" "do not touch with a pole." A supernatural being lived in this rock.

The landing-place at Regua village (called in Yurok otsegep, "where they customarily disembark") sixatxEstEn, "disembarking place."

The Tolowa name for Stowen in the list above refers to a mythical incident. Someone ~~was~~ had a lot of human hearts. He piled them up, and weighted them down with rocks. He could not hold them down. Then he put them in the river. They would not stay down. The fact that these hearts would not "stay put" is the reason why people today all think differently. Of the other place-names many are self-explanatory. ~~Not~~ a few are direct paraphrases of the Yurok names. For example, Weitchpec (or Weitspus) means "confluence" in both languages, and the place ~~called~~ known as Big Lagoon, in Yurok Oketo, "where the water is calm" is called by the Tolowa "smooth water." In most cases, the Tolowa names are directly descriptive, ~~so~~ the place now known as Trinidad, called by the Yurok "Mountain", on account of an isolated knoll connected by a low isthmus to the mainland, is called by the Tolowa "calm ocean", a phrase referring to Trinidad harbor.

Descriptive geography

Places ~~for~~ on the coast from the Oregon line southward

For the location of numbers see Map 6.

1. (C9). A promontory with rocks clustering about its base, Sicw1L, "resembling a head." Another informant translated the expression "resembling a knob or ball."

2. A large creek flowing into the Pacific Ocean a little southward of the headland just mentioned. Sicw1L· te'ginli, "Sicw1L creek" (see #1). On the modern maps this stream is named Gilbert Creek.

3. (C2). A very large, rugged, and imposing sea-stack, Spe'pi "puffin" (?). The term is the name of a bird, black in color, with a red beak. The name was recorded from another informant as Spe'peLya. On modern maps the name given this islet is Cone Rock.

4. A smaller sea-stack than the above; lying somewhat in-shore from it. TLlt-ed'ne, "dog rock." This crag is whitened all over with bird-droppings. The reason for the native name I could not discover.

5. (67) A sea-stack which lies very close to the shore, kw³ait³e'-c1k, "sun red." The rock has this name because often at sunset it takes on a rosy glow, as the beams fall on it."

(B 29)
6. (C 5) A crag of rock on the edge of the sea-cliff, Se':tcən. This is said to mean "rock which eats." I do not know the reason for the name. The creek which flows just north of this crag is called Se:tcənten. One of my informants, Captain Tom, lives beside this creek.

7. A low pass between two hills, Tc!e'çkis, "dragging something."

8. (B 28; 62) A very large and imposing sea-stack called Prince Island on the charts, Se-tLxən, "rock with a top ~~like~~ in the form of a receptacle." The summit of this crag has a depression in the form of a basin.

9. A small creek, which tumbles on to a gravel beach just north of the mouth of Smith river, T!a'-tcitl "north ~~of~~ on the bottom."

10. The promontory marked on the map as Pyramid Point, Eck!e'ni, not explained. A conical elevation here has been cut back by the combined action of the sea and the river, leaving a very bold and striking promontory, lofty and imposing. Its local name is Siesta Peak, the origin of which name I know nothing about. Elk used to be ~~found~~ seen on top of this hill.

Names of places along the course of Smith river from the mouth up-stream

11. A rock or cliff overhanging the sea, on the south side of Siesta Peak, Tu:'lu³wɛt, "fishing cliff." ~~promontory~~. This name arises in the fact that a person ~~can~~ sitting on this crag ~~and~~ can drop a line down and angle for perch in the ocean.

12. A very important old village-site, under the lee of Siesta Peak (that is, on ~~the~~ its eastern side ~~of Siesta Peak~~), Xa'wln-wɛt, "village site on ~~top of~~ a ~~bank~~ cliff." The name refers to the position of the village, perched on the side of the hill. Xa'wln is, literally, "a flat, or building space."

13. (B 30) A large rock in the river, somewhat above the village, Se:ntcwa', "rock large."

14. A large and ~~very~~ perfectly level ~~flat~~ island at the mouth of Smith river, Stɛntaso'nxwɛt, said to mean "island."

15. A rock or boulder in the river channel, close by a slough, Se:-Lo?ik, "rock red."

16. The hill lying just west of Westbrook Dairy, Taoto'n, "ridge on top."

17. (B 22) A flat or marsh between two water courses, SetL!Ek-t!a'ten. The word SetL!Ek is the name of a certain bird, ~~which is~~ described as a fowl with a slightly curved beak, which wades in the water and nests in the tules; probably the ibis. The element t!a'ten means a swamp or "bottom."

18. (B 21) A little knoll northeast of the place just mentioned, TEsnę'ki-sę'kwEtnatin³a, "madrone, rock upon, one stands." A solitary madrone tree grows out of ~~the~~ rock on top of this knoll.

19 (B 23) A ridge lying eastward of the above, T!ukw!Etnę':s, "elongated prairie." There is a flat open space along the top of this ridge.

20. The inner-edge of the sandspit between the river and the ocean, K!ail1s-na'set, "willow beach." The people used to go here ~~for~~ to obtain firewood.

21. A narrow promontory between two sloughs, MEnts!o'tEn, "one house there."

22. A place just above number 15, Wena'xastEn, "where canoes come around." The name is said to refer to the fact that boats have to follow around the outer edge of this island. The slough which separates it from the mainland is not passable for canoes.

23. (57) A promontory at the southern side of the delta at the mouth of Smith river, Tri^{n}ni's-sista^{3}so^{n}, "preserved human heads." I do not know the reason for the name.

24. (56) Place on a slough or backwater, evidently part of the old river channel, Tu':lɪt. There was formerly a village here. A well known character called 'Four-bit' Jim" came from this village originally. The place is known locally as Ottawa Slough.

25. (334) A large stream known as Rowdy creek, entering Smith river from the east, Saxo'tme.

26. (333) The present post office and town known officially as Smith River, and unofficially as "The Corners." Na'tLmi-ne'tastEn, "iron dancing." This curious term refers to the existence here of a flour-mill, which was operated ~~here~~ years ago, the expression "iron dancing" refer~~ring~~s to the moving machinery. The name of course ~~is~~ does not refer to aboriginal times.

27. (335) The forks of Rowdy Creek, Stca'ginli, "confluence."

28. (B 19) Place across the creek from Smith River Post Office, Na'tla, "standing" ~~"moving" or "quivering."~~ The ground here is mysterious or supernatural. A man who wished to get "luck" (supernatural aid) would go and stand there once every night for ten nights. ~~Then~~ At the expiration of that time he would feel the ground move.

29. (B 16) A place on the shoulder of the hill east of Smith River Post Office, KEstcu'-wait tLtegL, "redwoods winding upwards."

30. (B 17) A place on the ridge east of 29, Te'lonsi, "whale." It is said that during a "tidal wave", a whale ~~was~~ became stranded here. The surface of this ridge looks like waves, "even yet," the Indians say.

31. (304) A place across the river from the mouth of Rowdy creek. Hwä³tEsni'³lEt, "muddy place."

32. (306) A place in the channel of the river, Tkexosle'n. This term is said to mean "where the river turns back." I am at a loss to know why ~~it~~ this name occurs in this place.

33. (307; B13) An open space just west of a bridge which spans Smith river, T!uiyonst!u'me, "small prairie in." This site was inhabited at one time, but not, I think, in recent generations.

34. (308) A small flat beside the river, somewhat up-stream from the last-named, TEmtca':me, "~~dipping~~ deep ~~of~~ water."

35. ~~The northern peak of what is known as Copper mountains,~~ E'tLkwakwet, "gum or resin on top."

36. A place marked on ~~one of the~~ some maps as a "low divide," between the drainage basin of Rowdy creek, and the north fork of Smith river, Sxe'kwai-yi³:xût, "resembling children sitting ~~there~~ upon." The rocks here have knobs. Takelma Indians from Waldo ~~once~~ according to the tradition came over, and once, long ago, killed Crescent City people. Returning, they held a war-dance at this spot. A Crescent City woman whose relatives had been killed wished that they might die. They stand right there to this day. They never moved again. They are represented by three rocks ~~lie~~ lying just on the eastern side of the ridge. The place is also called Sxe'kwai-taiyÍLgwEL, "children stand."

37. (B 34) A village at the mouth of a creek, Xatsa'³xotdⁿÁtne, "receptacle-place below." This site is known commonly as the Bucket Ranch ("ranch", in the common usage, meaning an Indian village). The village has given the name Bucket creek to the nearby stream. The word translated "bucket" means of course a water-tight receptacle of basketry, used among the tribes of this region for cooking acorn mush. The place is called the "below place" in distinction with the following.

38. (B 33; 309) A place on top of the bluff, above the village-site just mentioned, Xatsa'³a‿kwEt, "receptacle above" (that is, up-hill from the receptacle).

Description of Plates

~~Illustrations~~
~~Rogue River region~~ and Chetco

1. "Battle rock" at Port Orford, Oregon (note the ~~cave~~ passage out along by the wan the island in the foreground)
2. View from within the passage just mentioned
3. View of the estuary or "pond" at the mouth of Rogue River, looking directly up the stream.
4. View of the north bank of Rogue River at its mouth, looking down-stream. An old shell-heap lies on the extreme tip of the point to the left, facing the ocean.
5. View looking up Rogue River from the old Indian village-site on the south side of its mouth. The buildings are part of the modern town of Gold Beach.
6. The junction of Illinois River with Rogue River. The houses from which the smoke is rising are on the site of the old Indian village.

Chetco River region

7. Looking up the Chetco River, near Brookings, Oregon.
8. Looking upward along the course of Winchuck River, near its mouth.

~~Photographs of Tolowa Indian region~~

~~Photographs~~

~~Tolowa region~~

(Frontispiece)

~~Tolowa~~ 9. Smith River, the principal stream of the Tolowa. View looking up-stream. This shows the characteristic vegetation and terrain in the mountains.

10. Tolowa Indians.

a. Ellen making baskets, photographed in Crescent City.

b. Polly, a Tututni from Rogue River, photographed in Crescent City. She wears the characteristic California basket-cap.

c. The same woman, with a load of firewood.

11. Tolowa Indians: Cushion Creek Jim and his wife Mary. The woman wears a basket-cap, and shows the customary Tolowa tattoo on her chin. These people lived at the southernmost Tolowa village. Photographs (Map, Fig 3)

b. The same Indian, in the sweat-house. He is standing in the "front door" of a sweat-house.

12. View on the upper course of Smith River (South Fork).

13. View from the mouth of Smith River, looking northward (from #66)

14. Views near Dead Lake (Map, #90).

a. View to the east of Dead Lake, showing the adjacent dunes.

b. The mysterious body of water known as Dead Lake (the waters were used to cure small-pox!)

15. Views of the distant sea-rocks lying in the Pacific off Point St. George.

a. Northwest Seal Rock (Map, #117)

b. Southwest Seal Rock (Map, #118).

c. Mussel Rock (Map, #124)

~~Tolowa~~ 16. Views along the shore south of the promontory known as Point St. George.

a. Scene along Pebble Beach, from #160, with the Sugar Loaf (Map, #140) in the distance at the extreme left.

b. Scene from the Sugar Loaf looking back toward the point from which the preceding photograph was taken.

~~Tolowa~~ 17 ~~#~~. Views of the shore south of Point St. George.

a. Looking toward "Hagger Creek" (Map, #152)

b. Stump Lake (Map #157)

c. Pebble Beach east of Stump Lake

~~Tolowa~~ 18. The crag called "Tree on top of a rock" (Map #159) a. From the west b. From the east

~~Tolowa~~ 19. Views of Nowin Island (Pelican Island).

a. Nowin Island looking east toward Lovers Point (Hall's Bluff) with the lagoon and the rock-quarry

b. Looking westward, Nowin Island in the middle distance

20 ~~#~~. The shore line near Crescent City

a. Lovers' Rock on Hall's Bluff (Map, #165) Merriwant Wapu were not allowed to look at this rock.

b. Shore-line near Lovers' Rock

~~Tolowa~~ 21. View of the old village-site at Crescent City

a. View looking eastward from Lovers' Rock, just mentioned. The village was on the flat promontory in the middle distance

b. From the mouth of Elk Creek, at the eastern edge of Crescent City, toward the

~~Tolowa~~ 22 ~~#~~. View looking westward to Crescent City from the mountain side. The lagoon near the Sawed Mine (Map, #184) is seen to the left.

~~Tolowa~~ 23 ~~Es~~. The old village-site at the mouth of Mukel Creek near the Tolowa-Yurok border, looking south ward (Map)

24 ~~Eo~~. Looking north ward to this same site, which will be seen in the middle distance.

~~Tolowa~~ 25. Remains of traps.

a. An elk-pit. The excavation lies under ~~only~~ the edge of a bush.

b. Remains of a deadfall for bears. The poles are part of those used to weight the fall.

~~Tolowa~~ 26 ~~Es~~. The tip end of the promontory at Point St. George, viewed from the north, on a very calm day.

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Waterman, Thomas Talbot.
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Notes on Yokuts Culture & Geography I