

These Mysterious People: Shaping History and Archaeology in a Northwest Coast Community (McGill-Queen's Native and Northern)

By Susan Roy



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Focusing on the Musqueam people and a contentious archaeological site in Vancouver, These Mysterious People details the relationship between the Musqueam and researchers from the late-nineteenth century to the present. Susan Roy traces the historical development of competing understandings of the past and reveals how the Musqueam First Nation used information derived from archaeological finds to assist the larger recognition of territorial rights. She also details the ways in which Musqueam legal and cultural expressions of their own history - such as land claim submissions, petitions, cultural displays, and testimonies - have challenged public accounts of Aboriginal occupation and helped to define Aboriginal rights in Canada An important and engaging examination of methods of historical representation, These Mysterious People analyses the ways historical evidence, material culture, and places themselves have acquired legal and community authority.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

Susan Roy teaches in the First Nations Studies Program at the University of British Columbia and is a historical research consultant for Indigenous communities in Canada.

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