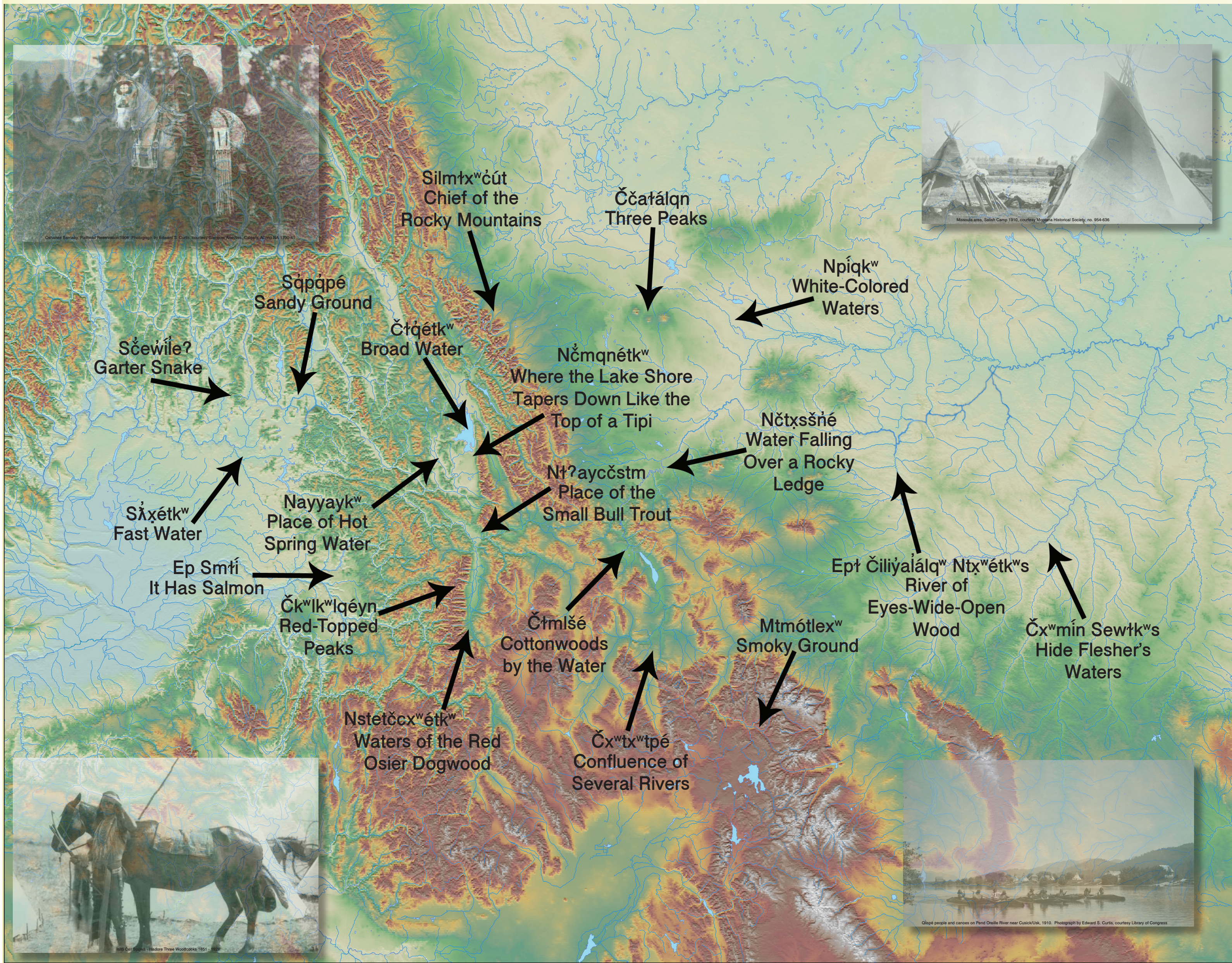
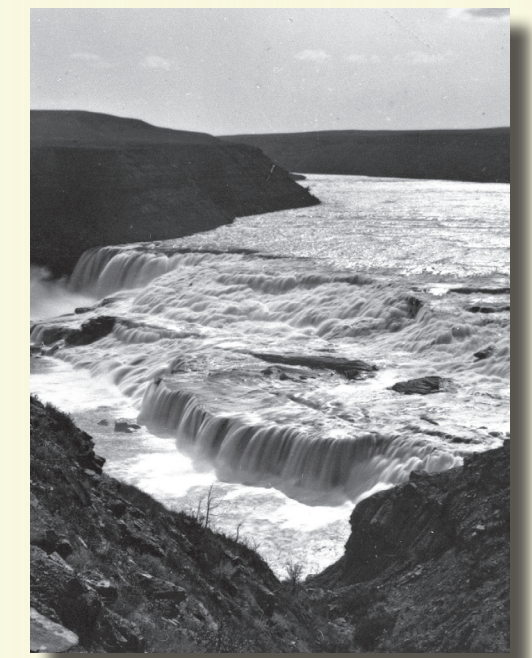




Selected Salish Place Names in the Aboriginal Territories of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille Tribes of the Flathead Reservation



Silmṭxʷcút– (Chief Mountain)
Prior to the introduction of horses, firearms, and non-native diseases, Chief Mountain and the Rocky Mountain Front was part of the territory of the Plains Kootenai and the Salishan *Turiáxn*. After these tribes and the Salish were pushed west of the mountains, they continued to travel to their old plains territories to hunt buffalo, conduct raids, or for other purposes. For them, *Silmṭxʷcút* remained an important landmark and cultural site.



Nčtxsšné – (Great Falls area)
After the Salish and Pend d'Oreille were pushed west of the mountains, they continued to travel often to the area of *Nčtxsšné* for buffalo hunts and other purposes. From *Nłʔay* (Place of Small Bull Trout - Missoula), there were several major routes. The most direct route followed the Blackfoot River drainage to the Continental Divide, then on to *Snsúʔkʷl* (Ice Piled Up - the main camp of the *Qlispé-Turiáxn* along Sun River near Fort Shaw), *Ncqccqéyn* (Things Sitting Atop a Flat Plane - the buttes in the Cascade-Simms-Ulm Flats area), and then on to *Nčtxsšné*.



Ept Čiliyalálqʷ Ntxʷétkʷs – (Musselshell River)
Musselshell River (also the name for the uppermost camp area on the North Fork of the Musselshell) *Čiliyalálqʷ* - "Eyes-Wide-Open Wood" - is the Salish name of "diamond willow," which is actually a condition that affects a number of willow species. *Čiliyalálqʷ* probably refers specifically to yellow willow (*Salix eriocephala* var. *watsonii*). The Musselshell was one of the most important buffalo hunting areas for the Salish and Pend d'Oreille. There were many Salish placenames along the Musselshell River; six are still known, thanks to the contributions of Salish elder Paul Antoine, recorded in 1934.

Ččatálqn - (Sweetgrass Hills)

In October 1855, at *Kʷalí Sewtkʷs* (Yellow Waters - Judith River), US officials and leaders of seven tribes held treaty negotiations to divide the buffalo hunting grounds east of the Continental Divide. Pend d'Oreille head chief *Tmtłxácín* (No Horses - Alexander) insisted on and secured the right of the Salish and Pend d'Oreille to continue hunting in this vital part of their aboriginal territories. According to minutes of the treaty negotiations, Chief Alexander declared: "A long time ago our people, our ancestors belonged in this country. The country around the Three Buttes. We had many people on this side of the mountains, and now you have shown us only a narrow ridge to hunt on. You do not see all of our people here. There are many beyond the mountains. It is a very small place you give us for a hunting ground. A long time ago our people used to hunt about the Three Buttes and the Blackfeet lived far north. When my father was living he told me that was an old road for our people." None of the leaders from the other tribes disagreed with Chief Alexander.