

HENRY WOLKING BASKET COLLECTION

Charlene Craft

Jan. 13, 1943

ARCTIC ARCHAEOLOGY
(Anthro.411)

Ivar Skarland

INDEX

Page No.

1Clipping from <u>Farthest North</u> <u>Collegian</u>
2Dedication
4Introduction
5Definition of Terms
6Description of Baskets
23Figures I-V
28Bibliography

Wolking Baskets Received

May 1942

The University Museum has received a legacy of 118 Indian baskets, made in different localities in Alaska and valued at \$5,000. This valuable and interesting gift was willed to the University by the late Henry B. Wolking of Cordova, who had been collecting the baskets since 1905, and who believed that the collection could best be preserved and appreciated in the University Museum.

The baskets came from such widely separated native communities as Metlakatla and Point Hope, Attu and Chitina, and from such interesting places as Kulvagavik and Qwinhagak, Kluckwan, Nuchuk, and Tatitlek.

Born, Died on Christmas Day

Mr. Wolking, the donor, died at Cordova on Christmas Day, 1941. He was born on Christmas Day, 1871,

at Second Creek, Gasconade County, Missouri. In the spring of 1872 his parents moved to Clay County, Kansas, where Henry lived during his youth. Later he lived in Colorado and in Idaho, where he engaged in prospecting and learned the trade of carpenter and millwright.

He came to Alaska in 1909, being first employed at Kennecott as a carpenter. He went to Cordova in 1910 and remained there until the time of his death.

Mr. Wolking was a member and past Master of Mt. McKinley Lodge, number 183, of the Free and Accepted Masons, and a member and past Patron of Cordova Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. He was a member of the Scottish Rite and the Shrine, and at one time a member of the Order of Odd Fellows and the Royal Order of Moose.

DEDICATION

If the POWERS THAT BE will tolerate and forgive a small lapse into sentiment in the writing of a purely technical paper, I should like to take time out to dedicate this manuscript to the founder of this collection, Henry Wolking, who at home was always called simply "Hank."

Hank Wolking was real "people". He was already ^{almost} / seventy when I first met him, but he was still carrying on business as usual in his machine shop overlooking Orca Inlet. To the people of Cordova he was an old friend, and the ^{two things} picture I remember best of Hank Wolking was ^{the} ~~a~~ smelly pipe clutched between his teeth, his veined hands that showed his years of hard work and which were beginning to shake ever so little, his gold-headed cane and, especially, the way his eyes twinkled when he talked to you. Don't think, from this description, that Hank looked his seventy years with "parchment face, shaky voice, and snow-white hair"--he didn't. Actually, I was very much surprised to learn when he died that he was that old, for he seemed twenty years younger. He still worked hard, his hair was still black, and his face only a little wrinkled. His cane and the slight shake of his hands were the only signs of his age.

Hank was an ardent Mason and Eastern Star, and he showed a great interest in our Rainbow assembly. An assembly which made many mistakes accomplished one good office--making Hank happy by showing its appreciation of all he had done for it. Hank, who had always been a bachelor, was made honorary "Daddy" of Rainbow Assembly No. 4 a short year before he died, and I honestly

believe that he was made happy by this token of love and appreciation from a hopeless bunch of scatterbrained girls.

To "Daddy" Hank Wolking, then, I dedicate this paper.

INTRODUCTION

There should be some reason for choosing the subject of a manuscript such as this. I have a reason, a good reason, for selecting the Henry Wolking Collection as the subject of this term paper.

I knew Hank Wolking and I had seen his collection at home in Cordova, and he told me then that he intended the University of Alaska to have the collection in its entirety after his death. I am duly thankful for his foresight in cataloguing his collection, as it has greatly facilitated describing it.

The collection numbers 122 baskets, 118 of which are from Alaska and four of which, namely 1B-4B, are from localities outside of Alaska. Only one of these 122 baskets, No. 75, is missing, and I sincerely hope that it can be located, and is only misplaced and not lost in transit from Cordova to College.

These baskets will be catalogued in the Museum catalogues in the near future, and some day they will no doubt be put on display for the benefit and appreciation of all visitors to the University of Alaska Museum.

I have derived great happiness in having had the opportunity of working with this collection, having known and enjoyed the friendship of Hank Wolking, and I sincerely hope I have done the collection justice.

Definition of Terms

A short definition of terms seems to be necessary.

Diaper is the term used for relief;-patterns standing out in the weave of the basket.

Twine weaving is illustrated in Figure I, no.1, and 2, with sample.

Coiled weaving or sewing is also illustrated in Figure I, no. 3 a,b, and sample.

Wrapped weaving is illustrated in Figure I, no. 4.

Wickerwork is plain weaving when the woof is stiff.

Crossed Warp Twining, Hemstitching and Lattice-work are illustrated in Figure II.

Single-rod coiling and wrapped twining is illustrated in Figure III, no.1, and no. 3 respectively

The various methods of decoration are imbrecation, overlying in coiled and twined weaving, and beading (which is merely embroidery) which are illustrated in Figure III, nos. 2, and 4. In some of the baskets the color was added by merely twining in or sewing a coil with another color of the same material being used.

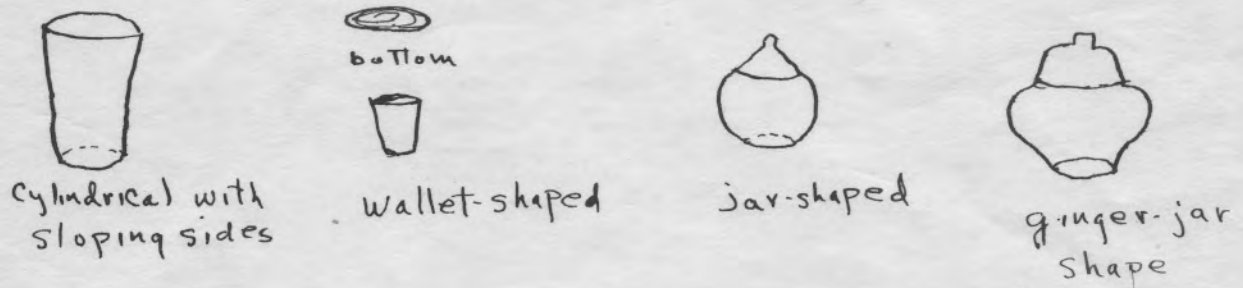
The birchbark baskets are more or less the same shape, but splint lashing varies on all. These are illustrated in Figure IV.

Figure V is a conglomerate of border edges for twined, coiled techniques, and handle fastening and one type of woven splint bottom.

The main materials used in the baskets of this collection are spruce root, and grass (Attu) for twining, splint of some sort for wickerwork, single-rod coil, and wrapped twining. Grass foundation and straw-like grass are used mostly for the coiled baskets.

I haven't endeavored to go into the (question)^{Topic} of symbolism of design, but have just sketched the unique design motifs that occurred.

Below are illustrated the general forms of baskets:



DESCRIPTION

No.

Locality (Date)

Description

(0 (Skeleton Descrip- Where Made(Date of	1.Shape
(tion) construction)	2.Size
(Design/ ^{shape} Motifs will be illustrated	3.Decoration
(if unique in this space	a.type
(b.color
(THIS BASIC DESCRIPTION WILL BE FOLLOWED	4.Material
(THROUGHOUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE FOR ALL	5.Weave
(122 BASKETS OF THE COLLECTION	6.Border
(7.Miscellaneous

1. M-3948

Chilkat(Sitka tribe)

1. Cylindrical, sides have slight slope.
2. Large
3. Only decoration is in the weave. The border is banded by several twined rows.
4. Spruce root.
5. Twine alternated with straight check weave, as in Fig.V, No.5B (Basket No.94).
6. Border is illustrated, (Fig.V, No.6).
7. This basket shows use.

M-3949

2. (includes top)

Attu Island (1900)

1. Cylindrical, with top.
2. Small plus.
3. Decoration is very fine.
 - a. embroidered in silk
 - b. pink and green, flowers (roses).
4. grass
5. close twine
6. Border edge is as Fig. V, No.7 (Basket No.48) This is the general type of border for the finely made Attu baskets.



3. M-3960

Sitka(1907)Thlinket

1. cylindrical, sloping sides
2. Medium.
3. Decoration
 - a. diaper and overlay both
 - b. red and brown
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border illustrated, Fig.V, No.1.



4. (top) M-3951

Nunivak Island

1. jar-shaped
2. large
3. a. inwoven
b. faded
4. grass and straw
5. coiled, grass foundation, straw sewing, furcated.
6. no special border
7. braided loop on top.

5. M-3952

St. Michael

1. plate-shaped
2. medium
3. a. loop band
b. color on edging
4. grass and straw
5. coiled, grass foundation, straw sewing, furcated
6. border illustrated, Fig. V., No. 11.

6. M-3953

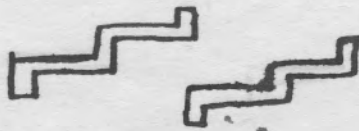
Katalla (1901) Thlinket



1. cylindrical shaped, sides have slight slope
2. medium
3. a. overlay
b. red and dark brown
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border illustrated (Fig. V, No. 2).

7. M-3954

Cordova (1920)



1. cylindrical, not very deep
2. medium
3. a. overlay, geometric des.
b. purple, cerise, and yellow
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border as in Fig. V, No. 8 (Basket 118)
7. Poorly made.

8. (top) M-3955

Kaltag



1. sides have sharp slope
2. medium
3. a. inwoven
b. red, green and natural
4. splint
5. single rod coil (Fig. III, No. 1)
6. No special border.

9. (top) M-3956

Nushagak



1. jar-shaped
2. medium
3. a. beaded design (yarn)
b. red and green
4. grass and straw
5. grass foundation, coiled, furcated
6. No special border
7. Cover (top) is peculiar in its deepness.

10. (top) M-3957

X

Snag Point

1. Jar-shaped
2. medium
3. a. inwoven stripes
b. brown
4. grass and straw
5. fine coil, grass foundation, bi-furcated
6. no special border
7. buttonhole loop on top

11. M-3958



Togiak

1. deep bowl-shaped
2. medium plus
3. a. loop border and imbreccation
b. rust and darker brown
4. grass and straw
5. coil
6. no special border

12. M-3959



Kogging

1. topless jar-shaped
2. medium plus
3. a. wool yarn beading
b. red and blue
4. grass and straw
5. coil, furcated
6. no special border

13. M-3960

✓

Kashega

1. cylindrical shaped, sloping sides
2. medium
3. a. beading in wool yarn
b. black and red
4. ~~spruce root~~ *grass*
5. twine hemstitching (Fig. IIB)
6. braided loop border.

14. (top) M-3961

✓

Illiamna

1. jar-shaped
2. small plus
3. a. inwoven
b. blue
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation,

15. (top) M-3962

✓

False Pass

1. jar-shaped
2. medium plus
3. no decoration
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation, furcated

16. M-3963

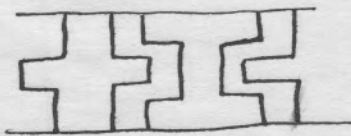
✓

Allakakat

1. oblong dish-shaped
2. small plus
3. only decoration splint lashing of border similar to those of Figure IV.
4. birchbark

17. M-3969

Yakatat



1. cylindrical, deep, slightly sloping sides
2. large
3. overlay
 - a. red and faded purple
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. border similar to Basket No. 6.

18. M-3965

Pilot Station



1. oblong bowl
2. small plus
3. a. beaded wool yarn
 - b. blue and red
4. grass and straw
5. coil, furcated, grass foundation
6. loop border

19. (top) M-3966

Chignig

1. jar-shaped
2. medium
3. no decoration
4. grass and straw
5. coil

M-3967

20. (top and handle)

Naknek



1. shaped like an 'iron-kettle'
2. medium
3. a. beaded wool yarn (on handle)
 - b. red
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation, furcated

21. M-3968

Perryville



1. oblong flat dish-like basket
2. small
3. a. no decoration except border
4. grass
5. coil
6. buttonhole stitch loopwork border

22. (top)

M-3969

Lake Beacheroff

1. jar-shaped
2. small plus
3. a. beaded wool yarn (chevron)
 - b. blue and pink
4. grass and straw
5. coil, furcated
6. no special border

23. (top) M-3970

David Island

1. jar-shaped
2. small-plus
3. a. beaded yarn decoration (cross)
 - b. red and black
4. grass and straw
5. coil

24. (top) M-3971

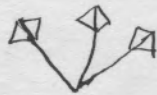
Benson Island



1. jar-shaped
2. small plus
3. a. beaded yarn
 - b. blue, red and green
4. grass and straw
5. coil

25. M-3972

Egigik



1. bulging sides with about three inches of border straight
2. medium
3. a. beaded yarn (flower)
b. blue and green
4. grass and straw
5. fine coil, grass foundation,
6. looped border rim.

26. (top) M-3973

Savanuska



1. jar-shaped
2. small
3. yarn beading
b. green and red
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation, furcated
6. no special border

27. (top) M-3974

Wrangell Is.
(Shelikoff St.)



1. jar-shaped
2. small-plus
3. a. yarn beading (cross & hourglass)
b. red and black
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation, furcated
6. no special border
7. top has wrapped coils whipped together with string or thread so that it shows just on inner side.

28. (top) M-3975

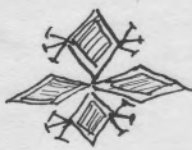
Port Haiden



1. jar-shaped
2. medium
3. a. beaded yarn
b. red and black
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation

29. (top) M-3976

Kanakanak



1. jar-shaped
2. large
3. a. beaded yarn (flower)
b. blue, green, red, and black
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation, furcated

30. M-3977

Chigang



1. jarshaped without top(border)
2. medium plus
3. a. beaded yarn (chevrons)
b. blue and black
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation
6. loop border
7. coils are wrapped with straw and whipped together with twine or string so that it shows only on inner side.

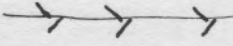
31. (top) M-3978

Ugashik




1. jar-shaped
2. large
3. a. beaded yarn (flower)


- 32. M-3979 ✓ Orca in Orca Bay


 - b. black and red
 - 4. grass and straw
 - 5. coil, furcated
 - 1. Pitcher-shaped (lip and handle)
 - 2. medium
 - 3. a. leaf design overlay
 - b. purple, red and faded green
 - 4. spruce root
 - 5. close twine
 - 6. Border as Fig.V, No. 14.

- 33. (top) M-3980 ✓ Mummy Bay (Prince Wm. Sound)


 - 1. ginger jar-shaped
 - 2. medium
 - 3. a. overlay
 - b. yellow, red and purple.
 - 4. spruce root
 - 5. close twine

- 34. M-3981 ✓ Nunivak


 - 1. 'bucket-shaped' with horiz. rim.
 - 2. medium plus
 - 3. a. beaded (beadwork)
 - b. clear and opaque blue beads
 - 4. grass and straw
 - 5. coil, grass foundation, furcated
 - 6. no special border
 - 7. has handle

- 35. (top) M-3982 ✓ St. Paul Island

 - 1. hexagonal cylinder-shaped
 - 2. medium
 - 3. no decoration
 - 4. skin of throat of fur seal

- 36. M-3983 ✓ Nome

 - 1. shallow cylindrical shaped.
 - 2. small
 - 3. a. large blue trade beads
 - fastened to edges with thongs
 - 4. grass foundation
 - 5. coil
 - 6. no special border
 - 7. poor work

- 37. M-3984 ✓ Copper Center



 - 1. Regular birchbark basket shape
 - 2. large
 - 3. border illustrated
 - 4. birchbark

- 38. M-3985 ✓ Sitka (Fish Basket)

rope handles on opposite sides

 - 1. cylindrical
 - 2. large
 - 3. no decoration
 - 4. spruce root
 - 5. alternating check and twine
 - 6. border like Basket No. 1.
 - 7. shows signs of use.

- 39. M-3986 ✓ *correction!* No. 91 Sitka (Thlinket)



 - 1. cylindrical with sloping sides
 - 2. medium
 - 3. a. overlay
 - b. yellow and brown

40. M-3987

Sitka



4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border like Fig.V, No.4 (Basket No. 118)

1. three-legged 'pot 'o gold' with handle
2. small plus
3. a. overlay
b. brown
4. spruce root
5. close twine

41. M-3988

Sitka



1. flat dish with handle
2. medium
3. a. overlay and intertwined
b. red and faded purple
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border like Basket No. 3

42. M-3989

Sitka, Thlinket



1. wallet-shape, sloping sides with handle
2. small plus
3. a. overlay
b. brown
4. spruce root
5. close twine and lattice-work (Fig.2,C)
6. Border like Fig.V, No. 4 (Basket No. 118)

43. (top) M-3990

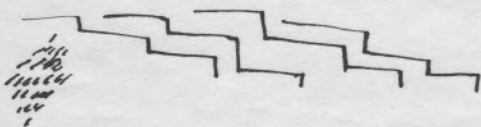
Sitka



1. Ginger-jar shaped
2. small plus
3. a. overlay
b. brown, yellow and red
4. spruce root
5. close twine and cross-warp twine (Fig.2, A)

44. M-3991

Sitka



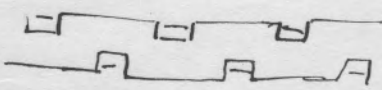
1. cylindrical, sloping sides
2. small
3. a. diaper diamond design, overlay
b. brown
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. border like Basket No. 3
7. bottom is alternate check and close twine. Braided handle



45. M-3992


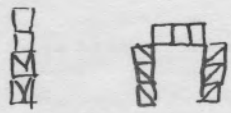

Sitka

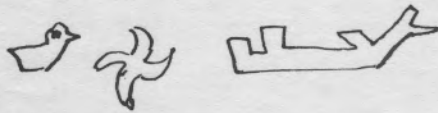



1. Cup and saucer (attached)
2. small
3. a. overlay and intertwined
b. red, black and purple
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. border like No. 6

- 46 M-3993 Sitka
X
1. Cup and saucer (separate)
 2. small
 3. a. overlay (leaf design)
b. brown
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
 6. border like No. 3
47. M-3994 Bering River
←
1. 'salad' bowl
 2. large
 3. a. overlay
b. red and black
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine, center is checker
 6. no special border
 7. shows use
48. M-3995 Attu Island
✓
1. ginger-jar shaped
 2. small
 3. a. embroidered rosebud design
b. green and rose
 4. grass
 5. close twine
 6. typical Attu border
 7. typical Attu fine work
49. M-3996 Alganik
4
1. Hat
 2. medium
 3. No decoration
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
50. M-3997 Unalaska
✓
1. cylindrical
 2. large
 3. no special decoration
 4. spruce root
 5. open latticework twine.
 6. braided openwork (loop) rim
51. M-3998 Nuchuck
X
- 
1. cylindrical, sloping sides
 2. medium
 3. a. overlay
b. vermillion and yellow
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
 6. three-strand twined border
52. M-3999 Unga (found there)
✓
1. cylindrical
 2. very small
 3. No. decoration
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
 6. border Fig. V, No. 8.
53. (top) M-4000 Diomedes Island
✓
1. jar-shaped
 2. medium plus
 3. a. inwoven
b. blue and green (faded)
 4. grass and straw
 5. coil
 6. no special border
 7. hide loop on top, and strip holding cover to basket.

54. M-9001
X Ellamar
1. Covered bottle
 - 2.
 3. a. overlay and intertwined
b. red and green (faded)
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
55. M-9002
X Yakatat
1. same (slightly better made)
56. M-9003
X Tatitlek
1. same
57. M-9004
X Katalla
1. same (horn stopper)
58. (top) M-9005
X Tatitlek
1. cylindrical
 2. large
 3. a. overlay and intertwined
b. varicolored
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
59. M-9006
✓  Chenega
1. cylindrical, sloping sides
 2. medium
 3. a. intertwined and overlay
b. red and green (badly faded)
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
 6. border like No. 3
60. M-9007
✓ Ellamar
1. cylindrical
 2. medium
 3. a. overlay (leaf design)
b. red, green, purple, orange, and blue (badly faded)
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
61. (top) M-9008
X  Katalla
1. covered dish (butter dish?)
 2. medium
 3. a. overlay
b. brown (purple), red
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
 6. border like No. 6
62. (top) M-9009
✓ Hoonan
1. cylindrical, shallow
 2. small plus
 3. a. intertwined
b. purple and yellow
 4. (?)
 5. wrapped twine, Fig. III, no. 3 (?)
 6. Border as Fig. V, no. 3
63. M-9010
X Katalla
1. Covered bottle
 - 2.
 3. a. intertwined stripes
b. purple, red and yellow
 4. spruce root
 5. open and close twine

64.  M-4011 Cordova
 1. 'wine glass' or 'goblet'
 2. small
 3. a. intertwined stripes
 b. red and purple
 4. spruce bark
 5. close twine, base is open twine
 6. no special border
 7. poorly made
65. M-4012 Makaka Point
 1. Covered water jug
 2.
 3. overlay
 red and blue
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
66. (top) M-4013 Metlakatla
 1. cylindrical, shallow
 2. medium
 3. a. overlay
 b. purple and yellow and blue
 4. spruce root
 5. close twine
67.  M-4014 Nelson Island
 1. tray
 2. large
 3. a. inwoven (chevrons)
 b. red and blue, etc.
 4. grass and straw
 5. coil, grass foundation
 6. handle Fig. V., no. 13.
 7. deep sides for tray
68. (top) M-4015 Point Barrow
 1. shallow
 2. small
 3. a. ivory seal head top and ivory
 disk on bottom
 4. baleen
 5. wrapped weaving, Fig. I, no. 4.
69. M-4014 ^W St. Lawrence Is.
 1. tray with deep sides
 2. large
 3. a. inwoven (cross)
 b. various colors
 4. grass and straw
 5. coil, grass foundation
 6. handle Fig. V, no. 13 with crossed
 wrapping.
70. M-4017 Cordova (1935)
 1. covered water jug
 2.
 3. a. intertwined and overlay
 b. purple and orange
 4. spruce root
 5. open and close twine
71.  M-4018 Eyak (1937)
 1. covered bottle
 2.
 3. a. intertwined and overlay
 b. purple and red
 4. spruce root
 5. open and close twine

72. M-4019 Cordova
X
1. cup and saucer, separate
2. small
3. a. overlay
 b. purple and red
4. spruce root
5. close twine
 a. twine work
 b.
73. M-4020 Katalla
X
1. cylindrical, slightly sloping sides
2. medium
3. a. overlay
 b. red and black
4. spruce root
5. close twine
74. M-4021 Dutch Harbor
X
1. cylindrical
2. large
3. a. beading in wool yarn
 b. red and blue
4. heavy grass
5. open twine
6. braided handle and loop rim
75. (missing) M-4022
76. (top) M-4023 Attu Island (1884)
✓

1. ginger-jar-shaped
2. small
3. a. overlay (duck design and spiral)
 b. blue or black
4. grass
5. close twine
6. typical Attu Island border
77. M-4029 Lituya (1886) Bay
✓
1. cylindrical, slightly sloping sides
2. small plus
3. a. intertwined and overlay
 b. several colors
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border like No. 3.
7. bottom alternate check and close twine
78. M-4025 Pyramid Harbor (1899)
✓
1. cylindrical, slightly sloping sides
2. large
3. a. intertwined and overlay
 b. various colors (slightly faded)
4. spruce root
5. close twine
- M-4026-27-28-29-30
79. 83 are the same, (set) slightly different designs.
No. 81 lacks a top, the rest have tops. *all have tops*
Angoon (Hootznoo tribe)
1. cylindrical (shaped like glasses)
2. small
3. a. overlay
 b. vermilion, yellow, purple
4. spruce root
5. close and open twine
84. (top) M-4031 Katliak River
←

1. cylindrical
2. medium
3. a. overlay
 b. red and purple
4. spruce root
5. close twine

85. (top) M-4032

X

Chilkat (Bering River)

1. cylindrical
2. medium
3. a. overlay (diamond)
b. varicolored
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. no special border
7. top has pebbles in knob to make rattle

86. M-4033



Wrangell (1890)

1. 'salad' bowl
2. large
3. a. inwoven design
b. black
4. rod and splint
5. coil

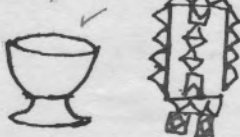
87. (top) M-4034

V

Point Hope

1. shallow
2. small plus
3. a. striped in light and dark
4. baleen
5. wrapped (Fig. I, no. 4)

88. M-4035



Nelson Island (1938)

1. 'punch bowl' or 'fruit bowl'
2. large
3. a. inwoven
b. varicolored design
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation

89. (top) M-4036

V

Kipniak

1. jar-shaped
2. medium
3. a. inwoven (cross)
b. blue and red
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation

90. M-4037



Kayak

1. cylindrical
2. medium
3. a. overlay
b. red and blue (faded)
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. border like No. 3

91. M-4038

V

Fort Yukon

1. medium birchbark basket
2. lashing shown in Fig. IV, no. 3

92. M-4039



Katalla

1. Bird-footed (goblet)
2. medium
3. a. diaper and overlay and intwine
b. red and purple
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. border like No. 6

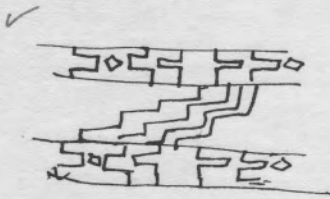
93. M-4040

V

Katalla

1. Cylindrical
2. medium
3. a. diaper, and overlay
b. red and purple (rather faded)

94. (top) M-4091



Hoonah

- 4. spruce root
- 5. close twine
- 6. border like No. 6

- 1. cylindrical
- 2. medium
- 3. a. overlay
 - b. vermillion, yellow and brown
- 4. spruce root
- 5. close twine
- 6. Border, Fig. V., no. 5
- 7. rattle in top

95. (top) M-4092



Kluckwan

- 1. wallet-shaped
- 2. small
- 3. a. overlay
 - b. yellow and brown
- 4. spruce root
- 5. open and close twine

96. M-4093



Hooper Bay

- 1. Looped mat
- 2. small
- 3. a. orange and purple coil
- 4. grass and straw
- 5. coil, grass foundation

97. M-4094



Tanana

Birch bark (medium) with border lashing Fig. IV, no. 5)

98. (top) M-4045



Shageluk

- 1. 'sand' bucket shaped
- 2. medium
- 3. a. red and green
- 4. splint and rod
- 5. single rod coil
- 6. handle

99. M-4046



Shungnak

1. set of four small birchbark baskets (nested), border lashing as Fig. IV, no. 7

100. M-4047



Kwiguk

- 1. jar-shaped
- 2. medium
- 3. a. inwoven (cross and diamond) and basket of flowers design
 - b. purple and red.
- 4. grass and straw.
- 5. coil, grass foundation

101. (top) M-4098



Quinhagak

- 1. jar-shaped
- 2. medium
- 3. a. imbrication (cross and diamond)
 - b. purple and red
- 4. grass and straw
- 5. coil, grass foundation

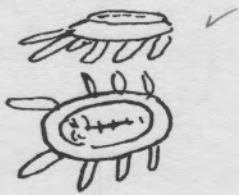
102. M-4049



Tetling

Birchbark basket, border, Fig. IV, no. 4.

103. (top) M-4050



Nunivak

1. Crab or spider shaped.
2. medium
3. a. beaded in grass for eyes and body
4. grass and straw, furcated
5. coil and grass foundation
6. two long legs; and three short ones on each side in wrapped coils
7. braided loop for handle.

104. M-4051

Tanana

1. deep 'wastepaper' basket of Birchbark, border Fig. IV, no. 4B

105. (top) M-4052

Holy Cross

1. jar-shaped
2. medium
3. a. imbreccation
 - b. orange, green and black
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation
6. border not unique
7. imbreccation done in transparent material.

106. (top) M-4053

Kulvagavik

1. jar-shaped
2. medium plus
3. a. imbreccation (diamond), inwoven
 - b. various colors
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation

107. M-4054



Kushkayak

1. bowl with handle
2. medium
3. a. imbreccation (diamond and triangle)
 - b. various colors
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation, furcated
6. Rim, Fig. V, no. 10

108. M-4055

Shageluk

1. shallow tray
2. large
3. a. inwoven
 - b. faded colors
4. splint and rod
5. single rod and coil

109. M-4056

Tetling

1. Birch bark deep basket, small, hide handle

110. M-4057




Porcupine

1. birchbark and porcupine quill (pillbox) (red, green, and natural quills, beaver design on top.

111. (top) M-4058

Mountain Village

1. jar-shaped
2. small
3. blue dyed straw (faded)
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation

112. (top) M-4059 ✓ Mountain Villages 1. Jar-shaped
2. medium
3. diagonal stripe in orange, inwoven
4. grass and straw
5. coil, grass foundation
113. ✓ M-4060 Chitina 1. Birch Bark basket, Fig. IV, no. 2 for border.
114. (top) M-4061 ✓ 1. cylindrical, shallow
2. small
3. a. intertwined fish and chicken design
b. varicolored
4. ?
5. wrapped twine weaving. Fig. III, no. 3
6. see Fig. IV, no. 3. for border.
115. (top) M-4062 ✓
116. ✓ M-4063 Cordova same as above, design nondescript
1. cylindrical
2. medium
3. a. overlay (hourglass)
b. purple
4. spruce root
5. close twine
117. ✓ M-4064 Cordova 1. cylindrical
2. small plus
3. a. overlay
b. purple and orange
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. poorly made
118. ✓ M-4065 Cordova 1. cylindrical
2. small
3. a. overlay
b. pink and green
4. spruce root
5. close twine
6. Border as Fig. V, no. 4.
- 1-B ✓ M-4066 Frazer River 1. bowl with base
British Columbia 2. small
3. a. overlay around base
imbrecated in red and brown
4. grass
5. coil, furcated
6. looped border
- 2-B ✓  M-4067 New Mexico 1. cylindrical, shallow
2. small
3. a. simple black design inwoven
4. splint foundation, grass
5. coil
- 3-B ✓ M-4068 Kingman, Arizona 1. cylindrical, shallow
2. small
3. purple design in weaving
4. wickerwork, rod and splint

4-B M-4069
✓

Campbell River, B.C.4

- 1.cylindrical with sloping sides
- 2.medium
- 3.a.inwoven(butterfly)
b.purple etc.
- 4.splint, cedar splint foundation
- 5.wrapped twine weaving
Fig.III,no.3.
- 6.lashed border
- 7.Bottom, Fig. V,no.3B

CONCLUSION.

In stating general conclusions as to quality in general of this collection, this I have observed: By far the most perfect and delicate work is done by the Attu Islanders. I marvel that such fine work can actually be done.

In general, there is no particularly outstanding work (that is to say, that there is no work that seems to be better than any other) among the examples of coiled baskets. Among the spruce root twining, it is very evident that the Thlinket work, both from the standpoint of perfection and neatness of twining, and in overlaying, far outrank the work done by the Eyak Indians of Cordova and vicinity. This is true of the baskets catalogued by Mr. Wolking as coming from Katalla, Chilkat, Yakatat, and Sitka. The most interesting designs come from this class also.

Speaking of designs, most of the designs are of geometric origin. The only realistic motifs are found on the Attu Island baskets, and the extremely modern "tourist" baskets such as No. 114 and 115. The only exception to this is No. 84, from Katliak River, which has a rather geometricized human figure motif. This is regarding twined baskets, of course.

The yarn work on the coiled baskets ranges from simple cross and diamond shapes to quite complicated stylized flower motifs. Quite the most interesting example of imbrication is found in the coiled group, for example No. 105 from Holy Cross. The almost transparent strips of skin or bark have kept their color beautifully, and I should like to know the actual material used to obtain this effect.

Again, it has been a great source of pleasure to have had the opportunity of working with this collection, and I hope my descriptions aren't too confusing.

Weaves: General Basic

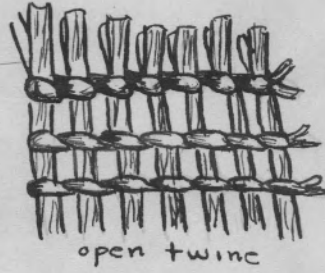
no 1



close twill



no 2



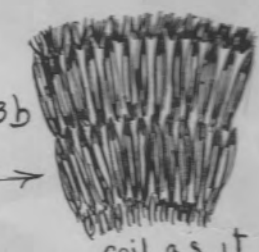
open twill



no 3



coil (detail)

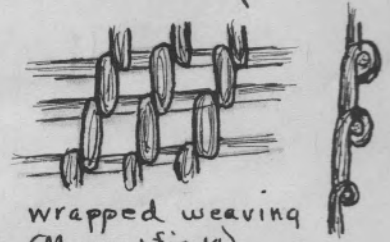


no 3b

coil as it looks

Taken from Mason →

no 4.



wrapped weaving
(Mason: fig. 14)
Collection No. 68

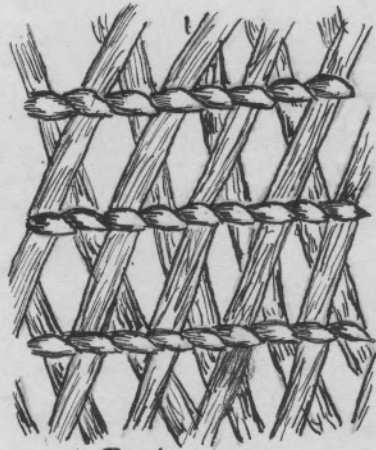
Basketry

(taken from Wissler: The American Indian)

Figure I

Weaves: Variations

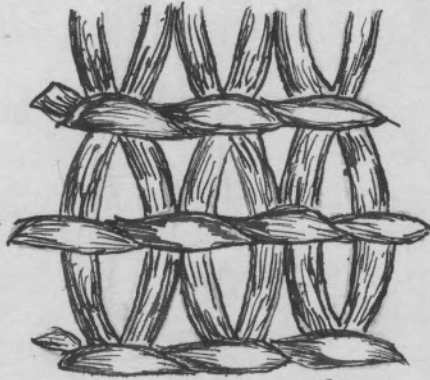
A



Basket 13
(Detail from O.T. Mason:
Aboriginal American Basketry)

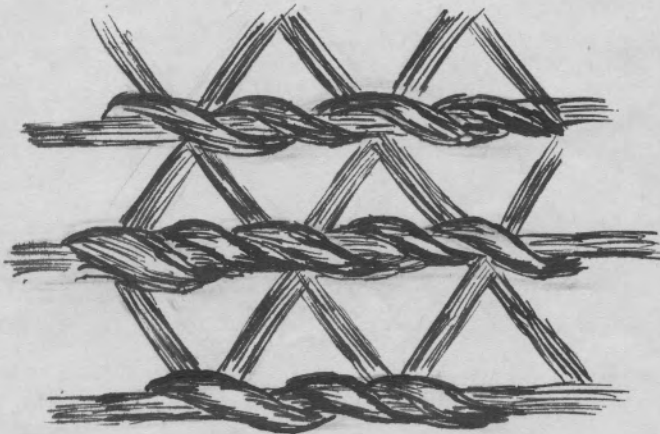
Crossed Warp, Twined weave

B



Basket 13 (twined)
openwork
(hemstitching)

C

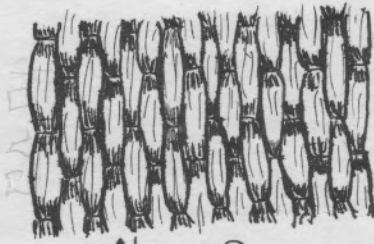


Basket 42 (twined)
lattice-work

Fig II

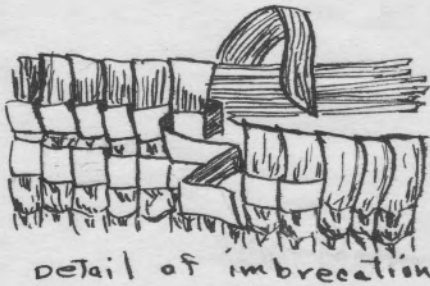
Weave: Variations (Mason)

no 1



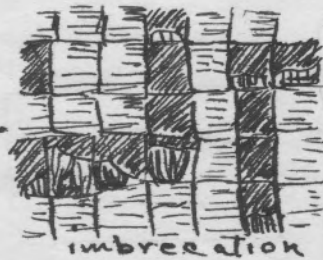
No 98
single-rod coil
(Mason: fig. 46)

no 2 a.



detail of imbreccation

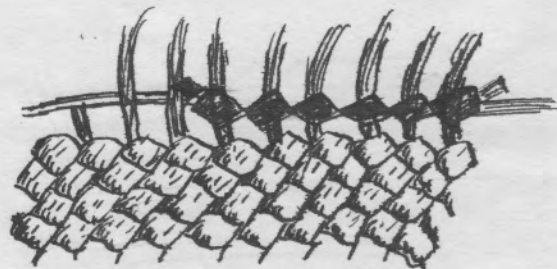
b.



imbrecation

Imbreccation (Mason: figs. 53+54)

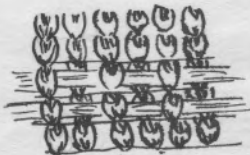
no 3



Wrapped Twined weaving
(Mason fig 22)
No 4-B

no 4.

a



overlaying
on coil work
(Mason: fig 55)

b.



overlaying
on twining
(Mason: fig 109)

c.



Beading on twined work
(Mason fig 102)

Borders: Mason + Collection

Birchbark Baskets



no. 1 (collection No. 109)



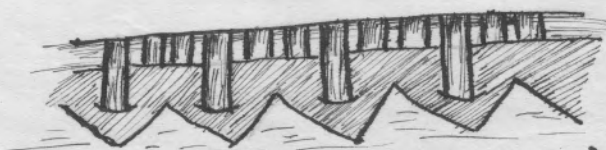
no 2 (collection No. 113)



no. 3 (collection No. 91)



no. 4 (collection No. 102) (No 109)



no 5 (collection No 97)



no 6. (collection No. 37)

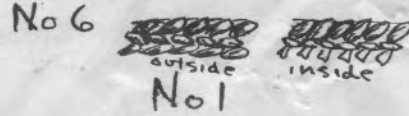
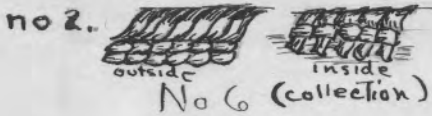
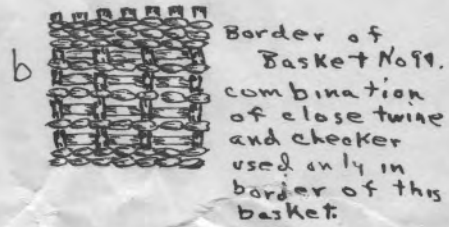
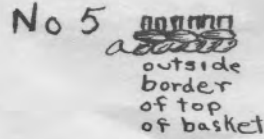
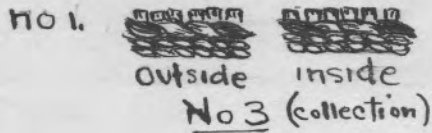


no. ~~9~~ 7 (collection No. 99)

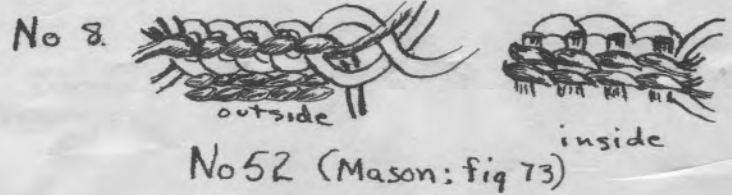
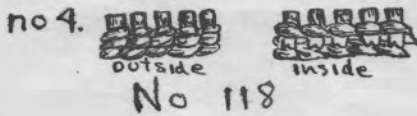
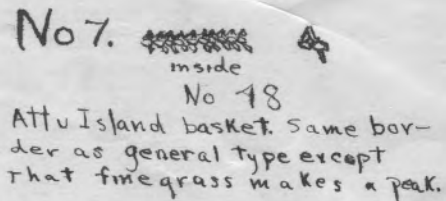
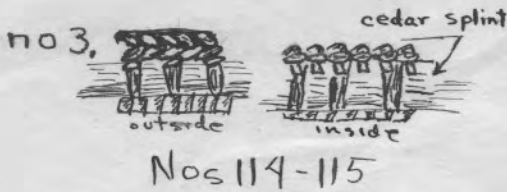
Figure IV

Borders: Mason and Collection

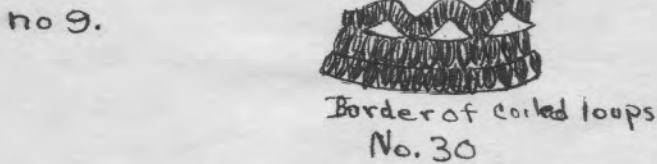
Twined Weaving



No 94



Coiled Weaving



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Haeberlin, Teit & Roberts, Coiled Basketry in British Columbia and the Surrounding Region, (41st Report of the American Bureau of Ethnology, U.S. Government Printing Office: 1928)

Holmes, W.H., Prehistoric Textile Art of the Eastern United States, (13th Annual Report-1896-Bureau of Ethnology: Washington Printing Office)

Holmes, W.H., A Study of the Textile Art in its Relation to the Development of Form and Ornament, (Smithsonian Institute Publications of the Bureau of Ethnology, Vol 6-1884-'85, Washington Printing Office: 1888)

Mason, Otis Tufton, Aboriginal American Basketry--Studies in a Textile Art Without Machinery, (Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution -1902, Washington Government Printing Office: 1904)

Wissler, Clark, The American Indian, (New York, Oxford University Press; 1938).