



Native Americans often provided the labor for the area hop farms, frequently gathering in traditional tribal or family groups. Photo #2006.33.14 provided courtesy of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.

Native Gathering Place

This area once lay along the Naches Trail which served as a major East-West route for Native Americans between Puget Sound and eastern Washington. It was on the edge of a prairie that provided enough space for large numbers of people to meet, have forage for their horses, hunt, fish, gather berries and roots, and to indulge in visiting, trading, and probably some gaming.

In a letter written to the Hon C.J. Faulkner of Virginia in July 17, 1856, early settler, Reuben Ashford Finnell wrote, *"The principal throughfare of these Indians in trading to the sound country was by my house and the neighborhood where I lived was the great trading ground. There they met in [July and August] summer by hundreds and whilst they carried on their rude and savage commerce, they could feed upon the abundance of wild berries and Salmon which that vicinity afforded. In this way I became intimately acquainted with the Indians on the Sound and on both sides of the Cascade Mountains."*



Photo provided by the Dennis Moriarty Family

In 1918 Charles H. Moriarty was plowing the hop field on this site with a horse drawn plow. He caught the sun glinting off something in one of the furrowed rows. He had uncovered remnants from another culture, a number of projectile points and an axe head, which still bears the scar from the plow.



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