



by David Williams

The cover picture tells a history of Hoonah. To the left and right at the top are the two moities, the Eagle and the Raven. On the Eagle side the Kaagwaantaan clan is represented by the Eagle itself, and the Wooshkeetaan is represented by the Shark underneath. On the Raven side the Takdeintaan clan is represented by the Raven itself as well as the Whale emblem below it.

The center Bear represents the Chookaneidee clan. The Bear form also represents the Tlingit summer camp site around the cliff-tunnel between present Hoonah and Point Sophia. The ears of the Bear are mountains. Between the ears on top are four fires. In the very center, the man figure under the Bear's paws, is the Chookaneidee hero "Cheet". Cheet was captured by Wrangell warriors. His exceptional mountain climbing ability enabled him to escape up the cliff and to the top of the mountain where he built four fires according to pre-arranged signaling to warn the village at Glacier Bay of the arrival of Wrangell Warriors.

The very spot Cheet chose to warn his people from is the same one a few hundred years later the U.S. Government chose for the same purpose--the White Alice site on the mountain behind Hoonah.