



THE HISTORY OF THE CAMP CRESTS

Part Six: What is that “Tree-Circle-Horns” symbol? (Article by Ken Wrigglesworth)



I was curious for years about two obscure Haliburton Scout Reserve crests from 1959 and 1964. Both were “alternate designs”, as there was a second choice available for these two years. These crests featured an unusual symbol that took some digging to identify. The symbol was an evergreen pine tree on top of a circle with two horns. It turns out this was a proposed symbol for the Scouting movement in Canada. I’m not sure who proposed and championed its use, because it never really caught on, and seems most popular between the years 1955—1965, and never officially. It is still occasionally seen on crests in recent years.

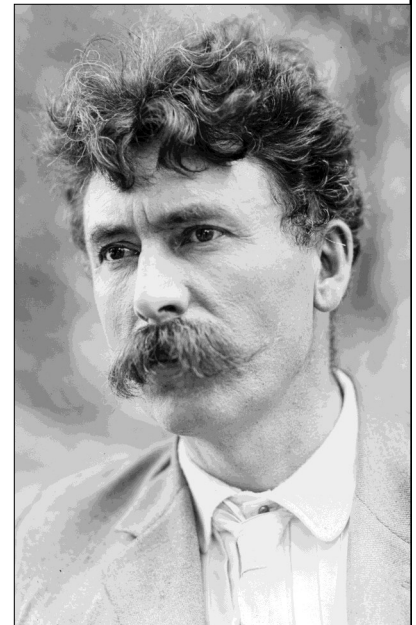


Four 1959 crests were available for the collectors, including two sizes of the “Tree-Circle-Horns” proposed Canadian Scouting logo, and two colour variations of Syd Young’s “Sydney-Joe Totem”. This was also the first HSR crest featuring the year of issue

I have found that the “name” for the “Tree-Circle-Horns” is the “Woodcraft Emblem”, originally used by a youth organization called the “Woodcraft Indians” that was founded in 1902 in the United States, and eventually merged with the larger Scouting movement after 1910. It may have been suggested that the Woodcraft Emblem had more meaning to Canadian Scouting (explained below) than the classic fleur-de-lis that was introduced by Baden Powell when Scouting was founded in 1910. The fleur-de-lis of course predates Scouting. It originates from a stylized image of a bouquet of flowers, held by early Christian martyrs, that pointed to heaven, and appeared in medieval heraldry, particularly in France. Baden-Powell was familiar with it as a British Military insignia that Reconnaissance Scouts wore on the sleeves of their uniforms. He brought the logo to Boy Scouts, explained “in his seminal book *Scouting for Boys*, Baden-Powell referred to the motif as “the arrowhead which shows the North on a map or a compass” and continued; “It is the Badge of the Scout because it points in the right direction and upward... The three points remind you of the three points of the Scout Promise”, being duty to God and country, helping others and keeping the Scout Law. The World Scout Emblem of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, has elements which are used by most national Scout organizations. The stars stand for truth and knowledge, the encircling rope for unity, and its reef knot or square knot, service.”

Here is the meaning behind the symbolism of the “Woodcraft Emblem”: *First—the tree. The tree of knowledge—knowledge of all that is good and evil—knowledge of the arts and sciences—knowledge of the stars, wind, the rain—knowledge of the woods, of the wood folk and the great out-of-doors. Next, the Horns—the Horns of Power—power attained through the tree of knowledge—knowledge is power. Then, finally, the Circle. The circle of unity, eternity, forever, unity of the great Universe—unity of our world-wide brotherhood of Scouts.*

The youth movement “Woodcraft Indians” has a Canadian connection: its founder, Ernest Thompson Seton, spent most of his childhood and teenage years growing up in East York, part of Toronto, on the edge of the Don Valley. That scouting area is now called “Seton District” in his honour. Seton is credited as one of the three principal founders of the World Scouting movement.

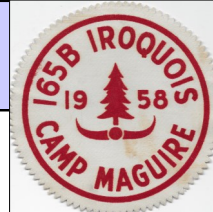


Ernest Thompson Seton, who grew up and was educated in the East-end of Toronto, was a huge influence to Baden Powell’s founding of the Scouting movement



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Part Six: The "Woodcraft Emblem" on HSR crests (Article by Ken Wrigglesworth)



An excerpt about Seton from Wikipedia: "Seton met Scouting's founder, Lord Baden-Powell, in 1906. Baden-Powell had read Seton's book, *The Birch Bark Roll of the Woodcraft Indians*, and was greatly intrigued by it. The pair met and shared ideas. Baden-Powell went on to found the Scouting movement worldwide, and Seton

became the president of the committee that founded the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) and was its first (and only) Chief Scout. The position of Chief Scout was removed, and the position "Chief Scout Executive" was taken on by James West. Seton's *Woodcraft Indians* (a youth organization), combined with the early attempts at Scouting from the YMCA and other organizations, and Daniel Carter Beard's Sons of Daniel Boone, to form the BSA. The work of Seton and Beard is in large part the basis of the Traditional Scouting movement. Seton was Chief Scout of the BSA from 1910–1915 and his work is in large part responsible for the appropriation and incorporation of what he believed to be American Indian elements into the traditions of the BSA. However, he had significant personality and philosophical clashes with Beard and James E. West."



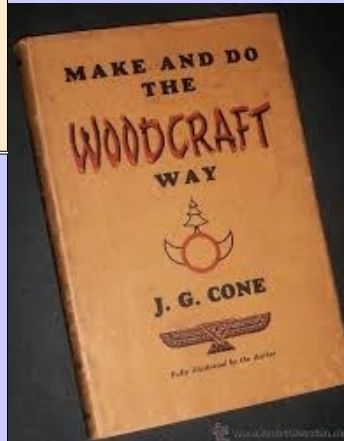
There were two HSR crest choices in 1964: one with the Woodcraft Emblem, and one with a Scout catching a large trout. It is much more common to see the fishing crest, suggesting the crests were not available in equal numbers. Possibly the supply of crests ran out partway through the summer, and a smaller batch with the Woodcraft emblem was quickly ordered because of problems matching the design or materials used in the fishing crest. There are perhaps ten-times as many of the fishing crest available as compared with the Woodcraft emblem crests.



Considered the three principal founders of the World Scouting organization: Ernest Thompson Seton, Lord Baden-Powell and Daniel Carter Beard



1. (LEFT) The 1977 HSR Staff plaque made by Ab Morrow. Notice he substituted a red canoe over a yellow sun in the place of the "circle and horns".
2. (ABOVE) The original Woodcraft Emblem from 1902, borrowing from the Plains Indian's Images.



3. (ABOVE, MIDDLE) woodcraft Emblem seen on the cover 1962 publication.
4. (ABOVE, RIGHT) Seton Area badge from the East-end of Toronto, covering East York, Leslieville and Beaches
5. Current Official Scouts Canada logo

