Throughout this report, but particularly in the ethnographic section (Chapter 2), an effort was made to include the Nuu-chah-nulth names for places and social groups, as well as other Nuu-chah-nulth terms. Nuu-chah-nulth words are generally shown in italics throughout (although the two major sites dealt with in this report, HuuZii and Kiix7in, are exceptions). They are rendered in the practical orthography developed by Randy Bouchard of the B.C. Indian Language Project, Victoria (see Bouchard 1982). A major advantage of this writing system is that all symbols are available on a standard keyboard. The symbol “7” represents a glottal stop (or “catch in the throat”). An apostrophe indicates that the preceding sound is “strongly exploded” (glottalized). Underlining indicates that the sound is produced toward the back of the mouth. Doubling of vowels lengthens the sound. This orthography differs from the system used earlier by Edward Sapir (e.g., Sapir and Swadesh 1955) and that used by Eugene Arima in preparing the narratives collected by Sapir (e.g., Sapir et al. 2004, 2009). For consistency, where such terms occur here in quotations, the present spelling is substituted.

Names for Nuu-chah-nulth political and residential units generally end in “–7ath,” meaning “people of.” The Huu-ay-aht (HuuZii7ath) are literally “the people of HuuZii.” The phonetic rendering of HuuZii7ath is used throughout this report to refer to the pre-amalgamation local group that was based at HuuZii. Huu-ay-aht, the spelling in common use today, is applied to the later amalgamated political unit and the modern First Nation.