BUTTON BLANKETS

DISPLAYING T̓ŁAK̲WA (COPPERS)



Button-blanket with Tree–of–Life crest.

Can you see the coppers design on this blanket?



Coppers surrendered under duress after Dan Cranmer potlatch; on display at the Parish Hall in Alert Bay, 1922

Photo: Royal BC Museum, PN 12194



Crowd at grand opening of U’mista in 1980

This photograph shows many Kwakwaka’wakw hereditary chiefs and elders at the grand opening of the U’mista Cultural Centre. There are five button blankets in this photograph that display the copper shield on the red border. There are also two tunics worn by chiefs which display the copper shield.

Photo: Vickie Jensen, UPN–01493