

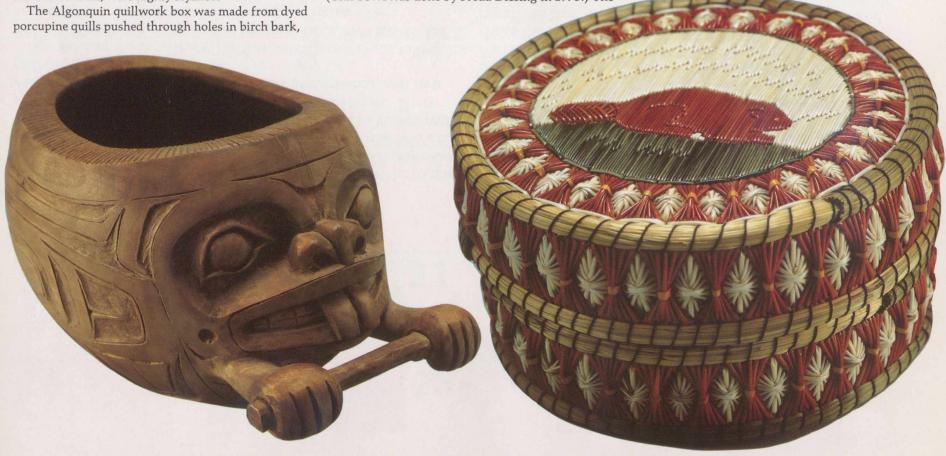
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Originally Indians did not produce art simply for art's sake. They drew their inspiration from nature and decorated articles used in religious rituals and in their work-a-day worlds. The beaver was universally popular. Some depictions were natural and some, particularly among the sophisticated tribes on the northwest coast, were highly stylized.

bent on the inside, then concealed and held in place by a lining. After 1850 quillwork almost became a lost art, as glass beads and cotton embroidery were substituted.

The Haida and other British Columbian tribes usually carved a full-face beaver with a chewing stick. (This bowl was done by Freda Diesing in 1973.) The

beaver probably became a popular clan crest only after the arrival of the Northwest and the Hudson's Bay fur companies. The tribes saw the beaver on both company crests, and it became the particular emblem of the middlemen who collected and transported furs to trade at company posts.



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