

## NAME FOR THE 707

The 707 (seven-oh-seven) already has a name. It's The 707.

Should it be a park, wood, forest, wilderness, or nothing?

“Park” is not in my opinion a good choice because of its connotations of a “city park”. I know we also have “National Parks” that are wilderness areas, but nevertheless I always think in terms of swings and roundabouts and ice-cream vendors and people sitting about on lawns when it comes to small parks.

LATER COMMENT: I would put it even more strongly. Calling a forest or wilderness area on Gabriola a “park” is positively misleading. To suggest you can just wander into the 707 in the same way you can Drumbeg or Sandwell is dangerously misleading. For the 707 you need to take back-country precautions—compass, flashlight, whistle, rain gear...

“Wilderness” is a bit pretentious, it is in no way pristine.

“Wood” is not bad—rather good in fact—but it is rather English. On the whole, I prefer the more robust Canadian “forest”.

“Nothing” has the advantage that this is what people will call it anyway; however, there is bound to be bureaucratic reason why just can't use a bare-naked “707”.

The Spanish navy didn't explore the forest other than to go hunting occasionally. They marked the interior of the Gulf Islands on their sketches “*todo bosque*”.

The Snunéymux<sup>w</sup> were a coastal people and didn't have a name for the centre of the island as far as I know. My guess is that they just called it “the forest”. There are no known archaeological sites there.

The Hul'q'umi'num dictionary I have gives *thuthiqut* as the word for a forest. What's delightful about that is that it sounds a bit like the English “thicket” and is hence easy to remember.

*th* as in English “thin”; *u* as in English “butter”; *i* as in English “meet”; *q* like an English “k” but right at the back of the mouth; *t* as in English “take”. It's as easy as it gets.

Hence my suggestion: The 707 Forest aka The 707 *Thuthiqut*.