Northwest Caucasian languages have usually been considered to lack noun incorporation. Indeed, they do not feature Chukotkan-style “prototypical” incorporation, i.e. productive compounding of the verb with its P-argument under specific discourse conditions with consequences for transitivity. However, I argue that NWC languages still show incorporation-like phenomena, i.e. the so-called spatial preverbs, many of which not only historically go back to incorporated nouns, but may be analysed as such synchronically as well. I focus on two types of incorporated nouns in Abaza — body-part nouns and non-relational nouns, discussing similarities and differences in their behaviour and drawing parallels from other languages. I conclude that Abaza spatial preverbs form a cline from incorporated nouns to fully grammaticalised lexical affixes, suggesting several successive stages of incorporation and affixalisation.