The importance of ‘Place’

Language documentation and Google Earth: Reflecting geographic knowledge

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Introduction

Goals for today

1. Briefly introduce the Dane-zaa language
2. Discuss our DoBeS language documentation project
3. Google Earth layer
4. Future work
Dane-zaa (Beaver)

Location of speech communities
Language endangerment
Documenting languages

Language documentation teams around the world
Google Earth
Goals for Google Earth project

1. Reflect geographic knowledge of the Dane-zaa using the Google Earth interface
2. Create an alternative way to access the online language archive
3. To link multiple types of information pertaining to ‘place’ to one access point
Google Earth

Example outreach layers
Google Earth
.kmz layer: Dane-zaa place names

http://students.washington.edu/jcmiller/Projects/DoBeS-Beaver_Placenames.kmz
Google Earth

.kmz layer: Dane-zaa stories about the land

http://students.washington.edu/jcmiller/Projects/DoBeS_Beaver-Stories.kmz
Conclusion

Future work

1. Mapping stories of settlement histories, myths or spiritual narratives
2. Creating dialect maps / isogloss maps
3. Display of map showing traditional vs. modern land use
   - gas and oil well sites, with recorded interviews as to how the changes have influenced traditional life
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**Ú újọ asaanaláá? ✿ Masichuk**