

DIFFUSION OF THE ANCIENT "SEE/SU" ELEMENT FROM EURASIA TO NORTH AMERICA

by

John J. White III

Summary

This research paper is the result of a simple observation that the "see" element found in many North American river/lake names like "Tennessee" could be very similar in meaning to the "see" element found in many Germanic lake names like "Bodenseee". The Germanic "see" element is understood to mean "lake" today, and it is one of the simplest sounds used by man. It should come as no surprise that we think that "see" is pre-Germanic and one of the oldest words ever used by mankind. We elected to begin a search for river/lake names worldwide containing some semblance of the element "see" in order to seek insight into the ancient usage of the word "see". We found that the "see/su" element and its pronunciation variants occur quite often in North America in Native American (non-European) sounding river/lake names. Our conclusion is that the "see/su" usage migrated from Eurasia to North America several thousand years ago. This finding may be a useful tool for the study of cultural diffusion and ancient languages.

INTRODUCTION

THIS RESEARCH paper demonstrates that a very ancient name-element used in a specific context throughout greater Eurasia was also used in the same context throughout ancient greater North America and likely throughout the other continents. I am referring to the name-element "see" and a dozen pronunciation variants, especially "su", that are used in hundreds of names for inland bodies of water called creeks, streams, rivers, lakes, seas, etc in modern English. The truth of these findings is too obvious to be scientifically original on my part, but there continues to exist an absence of diffusion of cultural knowledge and research findings to our counterparts within associated fields of study. I am not aware of any related works on the present topic. This situation compels repetition until we achieve some future culture-of-honesty that establishes what might be known as the basics of cultural knowledge. The situation in the hard sciences for the dissemination of truth is vastly more efficient.

I entered the field of ancient cultural analysis in 1991 after a career as a physicist and engineer. My scientific mentality soon led to the study of cultural symbols and names as a process for getting near activities that deal with fundamental concerns. For example, how can you study ancient history with little understanding of the serpent as a symbol? Even though I have a speculative nature, I have no interest to write about topics for which I lack a comfortable understanding. I frequently refer to my interests as Bronze-Age-culture-and-before to indicate my concern that many aspects of the Iron Age appear too complicated for me to sort out without substantial additional insight from the previous eras.

MY PROGRESS in linguistics-related research would be very weak except for the fact that a recurring interest in certain ancient names came to a focus in the spring of 1996. I gave two lectures that year and then wrote the prime directive¹ for an ancient naming system called

Earth Mother Sacred Language (EMSL), which gives a monosyllabic translation of many names of gods, people, geographical objects, and some manmade objects in terms of the alleged basic god-names of the Earth Mother Culture (EMC). I have written close to 50 application articles since then with no significant reversal of my original set of rules. The scope of successful application of EMSL to ancient history names has exceeded by wildest expectations.³

IT IS NOT unreasonable to ask if EMSL was not one of the most significant linguistic discoveries of the 20th century. But unlike hard science and its treatment of fundamental discoveries, cultural research evidently can proceed unimpeded by lack of knowledge and insight into something as fundamental as EMSL. Only my history mentor, Professor Cyclone Covey of Wake Forest University, a seminal diffusionist historian, has attempted to synthesize the development of EMSL with the history of linguistics.² Roughly 100 active professional linguists have been exposed to EMSL articles without response positive or negative. They are waiting for some smart linguist to find the fatal flaw! It is somewhat like clerics praying for the round Earth concept to go away. Progress is here to stay in this case. If sacred naming is prevalent among Christians and others in the modern era, why should I be cautious to think the same of my ancient ancestors?

I had noticed the "see" word, as in "Tennessee", in my earliest studies, but it was obviously from a different cultural domain than EMSL. Once I had collected about ten "see" words, I decided that a computer study of US geographical names of bodies of water was the most efficient approach to the question of whether the ancient "see" usage was well beyond what might be called random usage by the ancients or modern usage by the American colonists of 1500 CE and later.

Now I should remind the reader ahead of time that I have not answered very many questions

about the statistics or linguistic sources of the "see/su" problem. My goal at this point is to establish that the question asked is a good ancient cultural question. The "see" word could have been used in North America by early paleolithic cultures (6000 BCE and before) and by the later retrograde paleolithic cultures (down to modern times). Try to concentrate on the issue that if "see" is a meaningful word-element in modern German, then it might have been a meaningful word-element in old Native American. If the concept proves interesting, then look for similar examples. The issue not only speaks to cultural diffusion but to the decipherment of linguistic puzzles.

THE "SEE" word and its variations are still in use in modern Eurasian languages, and thus I suspect that linguistic research will show that they are still used or at least understood in the languages of some modern tribal peoples. My expectation is that many monosyllabic elements are very basic in meaning and resilient to replacement. Two equivalents to the "see" word in terms of age are the parental words "ma" and "pa". I would like to think that some of the old two-syllable words like "nana", "dene", and "dia/tia/deo/teo" continue to be understood, but they may suffer routine replacement. The "see" name is very special when you consider that the word for Earth/Earth Mother is "Ard/Earth(e)/Erde/Rhea", "Gaia/Gee/Ki", "Ma/Muu/Zema", "Awa/Wa", etc in surviving languages today,³ that is, it is widely dispersed in short sounds that are not simply related by shifts in pronunciation. Nevertheless, these are all EMSL words¹ from what I call the EMC that I allege was prevalent during the Bronze Age and before.

OLD WORLD "SEE" NAMES

THIS SECTION familiarizes you with some of the more common "see" words. Those of us who know the German language tend to assume that the occurrence of "see" in names was intended to mean "body of water" by our ancestors, but we must remember that many

modern names include a "see" sound and the context of usage does not always suggest an original association with a body of water, eg, the surname "Tracey". Keep in mind that the original usage may be completely forgotten. Most of the following names come from the Atlas Collections and Geographical Dictionaries available in most large U.S. libraries. The lists are hardly complete.

Germanic Names

The reader is likely familiar with the naming of lakes, inland seas, and occasionally rivers in the Germanic-language countries of Europe. Here are some examples:

Ägerisee, Switzerland
Ammersee, Germany
Bodensee, Germany/Austria/Switzerland
Chiemsee, Germany
Dümmer See, Germany
Federsee, Germany
Gmunder See, Austria
Grimsey Island, Iceland
Hallwiler See, Switzerland
Kammersee/Attersee, Austria
Lacher See, Germany
Möhnesee, Germany
Mondsee, Austria
Neusiedler See, Austria/Hungary
Nordsee, Netherlands
Seeheim River, Southwest Africa
Starnberger See, Germany
Tegernsee, Germany
Traun See, Germany
Überlinger See (River), Germany
Untersee (River), Germany
Wadden Zee, Netherlands
Wallensee, Switzerland
Wannsee, Berlin, Germany
Wörther See, Austria
Wörthsee, Germany
Würmsee, Germany
Zealand (Sjaelland) Islands, Denmark
Zeeland Islands, Netherlands

Zuger See, Switzerland
Zuider Zee, Netherlands

Borressø Lake, Denmark
Brassø Lake, Denmark

British Isles Names

THE BRITISH ISLES languages give the best demonstration of how the modern usage of an old word can drift from the original discipline. A English "sea" name is not entirely closed in by land, and the meaning of the term appears to mean "by the sea" when applied to an island, seaport, or village name.

Anglesey Island, Wales
Chelsea, London, England
Colonsay Island, Scotland
Cowsie River, England
Dursey Island, Ireland
Guernsey, English Channel Island
Isleornsay Village, Sky, Scotland
Jersey, English Channel Island
Ouse (Great) River, England
Raasay Island, Sky, Scotland
Ramsey Island, Wales
Ramsey Town, Isle of Man, UK
Ronaldsay Islands, Orkney, Scotland
Rothsay Village, Scotland
Selsey Bill and Village, England
Shapinsay Island, Orkney, Scotland
Skipsee Village, England
Swansea Seaport, Wales
Tarnsay Island, Harris, Scotland
Vatersay Island, South Uist, Scotland
Wallasey Seaport, Wales
Withernsea Village, England
Winchelsea Town, England

Danish Names

The Danes use a "see" word for lakes, unlike their northern neighbors. This word is so old that it might have diffused more than any word except "ma" and "pa". The simpler model for now is to assume that the Germanic language speakers inherited the word from Central and Western Asia.

Almindssø Lake, Denmark
Birksø Lake, Denmark

Gudensø Lake, Denmark
Julsø Lake, Denmark
Knudsø Lake, Denmark
Mossø Lake, Denmark
Odense River, Denmark
Ormsø Lake, Denmark
Ravnsø Lake, Denmark
Silkeborg Langsø Lake, Denmark
Vessø Lake, Denmark

Other European Names

THERE IS A slight hint that "see" names were used in other parts of Europe during the Bronze Age. I am suspicious that many of these old names exist today with "see" endings but no reference to the original body of water. It is difficult to except the word "Maritsa" as a legitimate "see" word without making a study of slavic language endings. I am also aware that some of the rivers and lakes had ancient names that are no longer used or pronounced the same as today.

Baïse River, France
Chiese River, Italy
Latoritsa River, Ukraine
Maritsa River, Bulgaria
Meuse River, Belgium
Oise River, Belgium
Seine River, France
Sesia River, Italy
Tisza River, Hungary
Varese Lake, Italy
Rositsa River, Bulgaria

African Names

I AM NOT a student of African languages, but my intuition is that the African uses of the "see" sound are similar to the Germanic usage. This could be the oldest branching of the "see" usage.

Chambezi River, Zambia

Eyasi Lake, Tanzania
Nuanetsi River, Rhodesia
Nyasa Lake, Tanzania
Takkaze/Tekeze River, Ethiopia
Zambezi River, Zambia

Asian Names

THE SEARCH for Asian "see" names is rather incomplete and possibly contains several errors. The "Yangtze" and "Yenisei" Rivers are the most important examples. The Hung-tsi Hu Lake tends to confirm the "Yangtze" identification. I think it is obvious that a high culture like the Chinese probably replaced many of old names sometime after 500 BC.

Gokase River, Japan
Hunza River, Kashmir
Hung-tsi Hu (Lake), China
Lepsa River, Kazakstan
Kosi River, Nepal, India
Musj River, India
Musi/Moesi River, Sumatra
Seistan Lake, Afghanistan
Se Khong River, Laos
Talasea, New Britain, W Pacific
Yangtze River, China
Yenisei/Enisei River, Siberia

Turkic-Type Names

A SIGNIFICANT component of the occurrence of Native American "see" sounds possibly derives from the Turkic preference for the "su" sound. Notice the Danish, Hungarian, and Slavic sounds listed above. Certainly, we must view these "see" words as pre-Indo-European and most likely paleolithic.

Ak-su (River), Kazakhstan
Igua-çú/Igua-zú River, Brazil
Kara Su (River), Bulgaria and Greece#
Kara/Frat Su (River), W Euphrates, Turkey#
Khara Usu Nur (Salt Lake), Mongolia
Murat Su (River), W Euphrates, Turkey

NORTH AMERICAN "SEE" NAMES

The purpose of this section is to confront the reader with the reality that "see/su" names associated with bodies of water are very common in North America. Colonists appear to account for roughly 1% of these names, although perhaps 5% are questionable for various reasons. The question for you to judge is whether the corrupt spellings of verbally transmitted ancient Native American names contain "see/su" sounds that are reliable. Surely the longer base names have been bashed, but I find the frequency of "see/su" sounds in names for bodies of water to be most impressive.

IT IS SOMEWHAT surprising that multiple names for geographical features are not common in North America. It is quite clear that the Native Americans of the Colonial era used geographical names that were quite old and rarely attributed to any one tribe or language. I don't understand all of the issues behind this observation, but it expresses a cultural value of Native Peoples about the sacredness of names. There is a notion included in the concept of 'Mana' that all objects have a spirit that can be contacted and influenced by certain priests using their powers of 'magic'. A major channel to the 'Mana' of an object is through the 'name', explaining perhaps why Native Peoples are often given a sacred personal name at their puberty (coming-out) ceremony.

I have hinted of an observation that native cultures preserve names and seldom change them. It is the higher cultures that tend to destroy memory of the past with the introduction of entirely new ways of describing life and observations. They provided new names for the slightest provocations. So we find that numerous authors inform us of ancient cultural customs for sacred names,⁴ secret names, that a name is part of the "mana" of an object, and other hints that the systems of ancient naming were highly valued. My studies of EMSL applications¹⁻³ clearly show that many ancient names had religious meaning that connects with modern understanding.

Further to this point we should remember that movement by water was the primary method of long distance travel in ancient North America, thus making knowledge and discussion of map-type information very important and frequent. How we may ask could Native American strangers discuss geography and give/find directions if there was no practice to continue the use of old names? Native peoples probably also had local names for objects that allowed for the exclusion of strangers from conversation as needed. These local names were not shared with many visitors and likely had some of the same humor and childlike meaning as the so-called public names of Native Americans, eg, "Two Dogs Mating".

Information on the U.S. Name Data

The data represented here are from Worldwide and U.S. sources. The Worldwide data, including Canadian, are incomplete, whereas the U.S. search is fairly complete. Many of our finds were later verified and expanded from the GNIS computer database maintained by the Peabody Museum at Yale University in New Haven, CT.

WE SEARCHED under the basic assumption that bodies of water having names containing the apparent "see" or "su" element would be of interest. It is certain that the Native Americans and Colonial data recorders combined to give some very corrupt spellings. We eventually found that "soft-c, s, ts, tz, and z" were all used in this linguistic context. We encountered a variety of vowel sounds, however the "ee" and "u" sounds were most frequent. Allowable spelling variations for the vowel sounds were considered.

One might be able to edit this type of dataset to look good or bad for our premise. We decided to present most of the data generated without editing. But, for example, we did not include the "se" and similar common endings in most cases, because the simple elements generated a great many names from modern English. There are at least 25% more U.S. Native

American candidate-names available, but the work effort to sort them from apparent modern names will be greater.

OUR DATA sources hardly ever classified the name origins for us, ie, Native American vs Other. Likewise, the historical trail was not suggested. Our entries give the data source name as spelled, the type of object, and the area of location. We chose to add a "?" after words with embedded elements that might be in an inappropriate spelling grammar. For the benefit of non-U.S. readers we have added a "*" after some names that sound like a possible modern American name. There must be others. A section of qualifying names recognized to be modern American usages was added at the end to show our problem in finding candidate Native American names. For example, the nickname for the settlers of Oklahoma is "Sooner(s)". This is the name of a type of covered wagon. Did ancient Native Americans use this name for a river or lake? To my ear, the answer in this case is probably no!

Names with the "See" Spelling

This was the initial section of the paper. I was motivated by the conclusion that many of these appear to be Native American and have "see" prefixes or suffixes comparable with the Germanic usage. What we lack is a proven ancient dictionary stating that SEE = RIVER/LAKE. I suppose that future workers will have further insights.

Adobesee Pond, Missouri*
Algansee Place, Michigan
Ankeewinsee Lake, Minnesota
Artussee Indian Church, Oklahoma
Autosee (Historical) Place, Alabama*
Aysees Peak, Nevada*
Bannahasee River, Florida
Bomoseen Lake, Vermont
Cellessee Cove, North Carolina
Chechessee River/Creek, South Carolina
Cobbosseecontee Lake/Stream, Maine
Genesee Brook/Swamp, Rhode Island
Genesee Creek/Place, Wisconsin

Genesee River, New York/Pennsylvania
Harraseeket River, Maine
Hatseegatloth Lake, Alaska
Hennessee (Historical) Place, Ohio*
Jehossee Island, South Carolina
Jocassee Place/Lake (Reservoir), South Carolina
Keesee Branch, Kentucky
Keesee Creek, Texas
Kenossee Village, Saskatchewan
Kiessee Creek, North Carolina
Kissee Creek, Arkansas?
Kitsee Inlet (Bay), Texas
La Chaussee Spit Bar, Alaska*
Levissee Creek, West Virginia
Losee Lake, Michigan
Losee Place/Canyon/Canal, Texas
Marsee Branch, Kentucky
Massee Place, Georgia
Mattassee Lake/Branch, South Carolina
Mauh Nah Tee-See Country Club, Illinois*
Narcoossee Place, Florida
Ocheesee Creek, Florida
Olingooseenuk Mountain, Alaska
Olutsee Cemetery, Oklahoma
Omusee Creek, Alabama
Oseetah Lake, New York
Ottosee Lake, Tennessee*
Pressee Branch, Kansas
Quanicassee River/Village, Michigan
See Branch, Kentucky
See Creek, British Columbia
See Lake, Missouri, Saskatchewan
See Spring/Canyon, Arizona
See Tal Lake, Missouri
Seebach Creek, British Columbia*
Seeber River/Lake, Ontario, Manitoba*
Seebers Branch, Missouri*
Seech Lake, Manitoba
Seekah Passage (Channel), British Columbia
Seekeks Lake, Texas
Seekeepeesi Lake, Manitoba*
Seekonk Brook/Place, Massachusetts
Seekonk River, Rhode Island
Seekoo Island, Nunavut Territory
Seekseequa Spring, Oregon
Seekwykin Creek, British Columbia
Seela Creek, Yukon Territory
Seele/Seeley/Seely Stream/Lake, AK, CA, CO,

CT, IA, MI, MN, NJ, NC, OR, PA, SC, UT,
WA, WI, WY
Seely/Seeley Bay/Brook/Creek/Lac/Lake/Pond,
Ontario, NS, Quebec, Ontario, British Colum-
bia, NB, Manitoba
Seemalik Butte, Alaska
Seemo Creek/Pass, Montana
Seepanpak Lagoon, Alaska
Seepay Creek, Montana*
Seepeesis Lake, Manitoba*
Seepela Lake, Montana
Seepi Lakes, Manitoba
Seepisis Lakes, Manitoba
Sees Creek, Missouri
Seese Run (Stream), Pennsylvania
Seesee Lake, Ontario
Seeta Creek, British Columbia
Seevie Island, Florida
Seevoo Point Cape, Alaska
Seevookhan Mountain, Alaska
Seevoonah Mountain, Alaska
Shaw-Waw-Nassee Camp, Illinois*
Showondasee Camp, Virginia*
Siseebakwet Lake, Minnesota
Swansee Gap/Knob, North Carolina*
Takanassee Lake, New Jersey
Tallassee Creek/Place, Tennessee/Alabama
Tallassee hatchee Creek, Alabama
Tamassee Creek/Village, South Carolina
Tanassee Creek/Lake, North Carolina
Tennessee Branch/Creek, AR, AZ, CA, CO,
ID, KS, MS, MO, NM, OR
Tennessee River, Tennessee
see/Alabama/Kentucky
Tuckasee King Landing, Georgia
Tuckaseegee School, North Carolina
Yamassee Indians/Place, Florida
Yemassee Town, South Carolina
Yonahlossee Camp, North Carolina

Names with the "Wasee" Spelling

THERE MAY BE several ways to exploit this data. The fact that the element "wasee" occurred several times may be significant. The oriental "w" is dominant in Native American names, as, for example, in Mandarin Chinese. I am interested in the possibility that "wasee" originally meant "va-see" and possibly "father-

river", where "father" could refer to the Earth-God as a Serpent. Consider, for example, the famous "Yangtze River" of China.

Chippewassee School, Michigan
Hiawassee River, Georgia
Hiawassee River/Place/Island, Tennessee
Hiwassee River/Lake, North Carolina
Nipinnawassee Village, California
Owassee Slide Run (Stream), Pennsylvania
Pennesseewassee (Little) Pond, Maine
Shiawassee Lake/River, Michigan
Tallawassee Creek, Alabama
Tiawassee Creek, Alabama
Tittabawassee River, Michigan
Wabaunsee Creek, Illinois
Wabaunsee Lake/Place, Kansas
Wahseeja Lake, Montana
Waubeessee Lake, Wisconsin
Wauponsee Place, Illinois
Wawassee Lake/Place, Indiana

Variant Names with the "Wasee" Spelling

THIS SECTION gives some possible "wasee" names containing some of the variant spellings I have had to evaluate. Some examples are a stretch of the linguistic imagination. The second group considers the "hasee" name as a possible alternate spelling of the "wasee" name. Our experience is that in the Spanish speaking countries, the "w" is not used, and we have to evaluate the shift from "wa" to "hua". All corruptions must be considered.

Callawassie Creek/Island, South Carolina
Montowese Town, Connecticut
Wahabonacey Lake, Iowa
Wassie Creek, Missouri
Wassookeag Lake, Maine
Watseco Creek, Oregon
Waubonsie Creek, Illinois
Wawanesa Village, Manitoba?
Wazeecha Lake Reservoir, Wisconsin
Hutsinpillar Creek, California*
Lanahasee Creek, Georgia

Natrahazuivun Lake, Alaska?
Tallahassee Creek/City, Florida
Toh ha Tsil Dize Spring, Arizona
Tohotso Creek, Arizona
Tulahassee Village, Oklahoma

Names with the "Cee/Cue" Spellings

A great many of the early European colonists were French speaking and partial French ancestry is common in the U.S. As a result, I found some c-names that appear to be spelled with a soft-c instead of the more Germanic "s". I also included our one "Dee" River. An example of this name occurs in Scotland.

Cee Lake, Minnesota*
Ceynowa Lake, Minnesota
Doucie Brook, Maine
Killamacue Creek/Lake, Oregon
Muncey Indians/Creek, Indiana, Oregon
Muncie Creek/Lake, Kansas, Michigan
Ocie Lake, Missouri
Ogishkemuncie Lake, Minnesota
Soccee Swamp Creek, South Carolina
Vicie Branch Stream, Alabama

Pee Dee River, North Carolina?

Names with Variant "See" Spellings

The section records many of "sie" and related spellings that cannot be distinguished from the preferred "see" spelling. There could be many "see" sounds available that are currently spelled with a "se/si" element.

Asassiz Lake, Manitoba
Bessie Creek, Alaska*
Betsie Branch Stream/Lake, Kentucky, Michigan*
Blossie Creek, North Carolina
Canarsie Beach/Pol (Island), New York
Capelsie Lake, North Carolina*
Essie Creek, Alaska*
Hessie Lake, Utah
Isie Lake, Maine*
Kabusie Creek, Washington*
Lissie Lake, Georgia
Massie Creek/Lagoon/Lake, Missouri, Ne-

braska, WA
Mussie Lake, Texas
Neuse River, North Carolina*
Poughkeepsie Place, New York, Arkansas*
Siyeh Creek, Montana*
Slotsye Lake, Minnesota*
Syese Lake, Georgia*
Takysie Lake, British Columbia
Tetsyeh Lake, Alaska
Trepassey Bay, New Foundland*
Willsie Branch Stream, Texas

Names with the "Su" Spelling

I INCLUDED the "su" spelling late in the current project. It appears that the American version of this sound is spelled primarily as "soo" or "sou" or "sue". There may be a few pure "su" spellings that have been overlooked. This section also includes a few "soy" names.

Alamoosook Lake, Maine?
Bassoo Creek, Montana
Bassout Pond, New York?
Calcasieu River/Lake/Place, Louisiana
Dooksook Lagoon/River, Alaska?
Emaiksoun Lake, Alaska?
Ipsoot Creek/Lake, Idaho, Washington?
Kasook Lake, Alaska?
Le Sueur River/Creek/Place, Minnesota*
Looksookolo Creek, Alabama
Lunksoos Lake/Stream, Maine
Missoula Lake/Creek, Montana, Alaska
Missouri Creek, Idaho, Alaska, Oregon
Missouri River, Missouri, Montana, KS, NB, ND, SD
Quasuet Point Cape, Massachusetts?
Sa-Ol-Sooth Lake, Montana
Siuslaw River, Oregon
Soell Creek, Texas*
Soo Creek/Lake, South Dakota, Wisconsin
Soo Prong Stream, Montana
Sooey Lake, New Jersey
Sookie Creek, Texas
Sookeys Creek, Kentucky*
Soonkakat River, Alaska
Soucook River, New Hampshire
Soues River, Washington
Sougahatchee Creek, Alabama

Souhegan River, New Hampshire
Sougan Branch Stream, Tennessee
Sous Creek, Texas, Washington
Souise Creek, Texas
Souva Lake, Mississippi
Souwilpa (Little) Creek, Alabama
Sue Creek/Branch, Alaska, Maryland, Kentucky
Sue Lake, Arkansas, Montana, Texas
Sues Branch Stream, Kentucky
Suey Creek, California
Suiattle River/Glacier/Pass/Mountain, Washington
Suisun Creek/Slough/Bay/City, California
Suydam Pond, Pennsylvania*
Tipsoo Lake, Washington
Transue Creek/Run/Place, Pennsylvania*
Weemasoul Creek, California

Losoya Creek, Texas
Massasoit Creek, Kansas?
Osoyoos Lake, Washington?

Names with "Su-See" Spellings

THE "SU-SEE" double names were separated to make the point that "susie/suzie" names are debateable because they like the diminutive of familiar female first names. A "tsu-see" group of double names was added to this list.

Casoose Creek, California
Chestuee Creek, Tennessee
Sesujt Creek, Massachusetts
Sousie Creek, Idaho
Suei-Va Suei-Va Spring, Arizona
Suesie Branch Stream, Kentucky*
Suizo Wash/Well/Mountains, Arizona
Susie Creek/Lake, Montana*
Sutzer Creek, Kentucky
Suzie Creek, Idaho*

Betonnies Tsosie Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Tsusena Creek, Alaska
Tsyooktuihvun Lake, Alaska
Tzuse Shoal, Alaska

Names with the "Tsa/Tza" Spellings

WHILE I HAVE not considered that possibility of many "Tee/Dee" river/lake names, I chose to consider the "S*/Ts*/Tz*/Z*" pronunciations to be rather inseparable. This section presents the "tsa/tza" names as possible shifts from the "tsee/tzee" pronunciations of the past.

Atsaksovluk Creek, Alaska
Atutsak River, Alaska
Batza River/Slough, Alaska
Connaritsa Swamp (Stream), North Carolina
Hogatza River, Alaska
Hogatzakhotak Creek, Alaska
Kletsan Creek, Alaska?
Mazatzal Wash (Stream), Arizona
Nashaquitsa Pond, Massachusetts
Patsaliga Creek, Alabama
Peritsa Creek, Montana*
Tsaile Creek, Arizona
Tsayagtulek Creek, Alaska
Tuntsa Wash (Stream), New Mexico

Names with the "Tse/Tze" Spelling

This section presents the "tse/tze" spellings with their related variants. Notice that the American speller does not care for the "tsee/tzee" construction because it is rare in English. Some of the Alaskan names may be Russian, as in the case of "Krenitzin".

Atsina Lake/Falls, Montana*
Canapitsit Channel, Massachusetts?
Chalkyitsik Slough/Place, Alaska?
Chitsia Creek/Mountain, Alaska
Chottsik Lake, Alaska?
Katzehin River, Alaska
Kenaitze Lake, Alaska
Kotsina River, Alaska?
Kotzebue Sound/Place, Alaska?
Kountze Lake, California*
Krenitzin Cape/Islands (Aleutians), Alaska*
Meeteetse Creek, Wyoming
Negotsena Creek, Alaska
Otatsy Lake, Montana
Otsego Lake, New York, Michigan
Otselick Creek/River, New York

Rukavitsie Cape (Aleutians), Alaska
Sinitzin Cove/Island, Alaska?
Spitzi Creek/Spring, Wyoming*
Spitzie Spring, California*
Tode Baho Tsiquini Spring, Arizona
Tootsie Creek, Montana*
Totzitigi Portage, Alaska
Patsy Slough (Stream)/Lake, Alaska, Oregon
Patsys Creek, Alabama*
Tse Bonito Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Tse Chizzi Wash (Stream), Arizona
Tse-Clani-To Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Tse Deeshzhaai Wash (Stream), Arizona
Tsedolalindin Lake, Alaska
Tse-Nas-chii Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Tse To Baah Naali Wash (Stream), Arizona
Tse-Yaa-Tohi Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Tsilchin Lake, Alaska
Tsina River/Glacier, Alaska
Tsi Na Jinnie Spring, Arizona
Tsin Beskunt Well Spring, Arizona
Tsingigkalik Lake, Alaska
Tsin Yatoh Spring, Arizona
Tsinnie Well Spring, Arizona
Tsirku River/Glacier, Alaska
Tsisi Creek, Alaska
Tsita Wash Stream, Arizona
Tsitah Wash Stream, Utah
Tsivat River, Alaska
Tsiyeehuun Lake, Alaska
Umagatsiak Creek, Alaska?
Vunittsieh Lakes, Alaska
Wiltsee Place, Ohio*
Wiltzie Run Stream, New York, Pennsylvania
Yahtse River, Alaska
Zitziana River, Alaska

Names with the "Tsu/Tzu" Spelling

THIS SECTION presents the "tsu/tzu" data assuming it is a legitimate pronunciation of the Eurasian "su". The "tso/tzo" names were added as a likely corruption.

Bekihatso Wash (Stream), Arizona
Hosteen Tso Wash (Stream), Arizona
Leh-Tso-Bii-To Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Otatso Creek/Lake, Montana
Setsiltzo Springs, Arizona

Tatahatso Wash (Stream), Arizona
Teec-Ni-Di-Tso Wash (Stream), New Mexico
Tiis Ndiitsooi Wash (Stream), Arizona
Tsolmund Lake, Alaska

Katsuck Creek, Idaho?
Matsutnak River, Alaska
Margotsu Creek, Utah
Natzuhini Bay, Alaska?
Tsuga Creek, Idaho
Tsuga Lake, Oregon, Washington
Tsiu River, Alaska
Tsum Creek, Idaho
Tsurolurna Slough (Stream), Alaska

Names with the "Zee" Spellings

THIS SECTION presents the "zee" names and their variants. I don't see any connection of these "zee" names with the Dutch usage that is more like the English "sea". The principle corruption of "zee" appears to be "zey".

Boozey Lake, California
Cazey Creek, Texas
Hozzey Swamp, New York
Mauzey Creek, Montana
Swanzey Lake, New Hampshire*
Swezey Lake, Michigan
Zay Prairie Lake, Florida
Zayante Creek, California

Benezie Lake, Minnesota*
Bombazee Brook/Rips, Maine
Brezee Creek, Washington
Cahoonzie Lake/Place, New York
Chippanazie Creek/Lake, Wisconsin
Cohanzie School, Connecticut*
Frazee Creek, Indiana
Izee Spring/Place, Oregon*
Jozee Spring, CA
Kezee Fork Stream, West Virginia
Kizzie Run Stream, Ohio
Mazie Branch/Creek, Kentucky, Idaho
McKenzie (surname) River, Northwest Terr*
Meentzen Gulch, California
Menzie Lake, Indiana*
Mitzie Creek, California*
Neyezee Well, Arizona

Phinazee Creek, Georgia
Lanzie Spring, Washington
Lizzie Str/Lake, KY, LS, ME, MN, OR, UT, WV, WI
Nakai Yazzie Spring, Arizona
Rouzie Swamp Stream, Virginia
Sahgzie Creek, Utah
Swayzee Place, Indiana
Swazea Pond, Missouri
Swazee Lake, Louisiana
Swazy Seep (Spring), Utah
Tappan Zee (on Hudson River), New York*
Veazie Creek/Springs, Oregon, Wisconsin
Yazzie Mesa, Arizona
Zealy Branch Stream, Tennessee
Zee Creek/Lake, Idaho, Wisconsin
Zeemal Spring, Washington*

Names with the "Zu/Zoo" Spellings

The section presents the "zu/zoo" names and their variants. Additional "zu" names should be available.

Bazoo Hollow Creek, Wyoming
Brezeau Creek, Missouri
Kalamazoo Creek, Nevada
Kalamazoo River/Lake, Michigan
Yazoo River/Creek/Pass(Stream), Mississippi
Yozoo Creek, Washington
Umbazooksus Lake, Maine
Zoe Creek, Idaho*
Zoo Lake, Minnesota
Zoorie Creek/Bayou, Louisiana
Zuesco Creek, Texas

Discarded US Geographical Names

MOST OF THE qualifying names dropped from the above lists are European surnames or recognizable American expressions. This section was included to give the reader samples of this evaluation.

Acey(CR), Bracey(LK/CR), Cayce(BR), Cercey(BR), Chancey(CR), Chauncey(CR), Daicey(PD), Ducey(CR), Gracie(CR), Kaycee(LK), Lacey(CR/LK), Lancey(CR), Macey

(CR/LK), Mercey(CR), Nicey(BR), Pearcey(CR), Stacey(CR/PD), Tracey(CR), Vincey(BR), Yancey(CR)
Allesee, Bentzen(LK), Betsy, Bresee, Causey(LK/CR), Coonsies(CR), Cuzzie, Demazie, Elsie(CR), Flossie(LK), Forsee/-Foresee(R/CR), Getsey(LK), Gosee(SW), Grizzie, Hentzels(LK), Hersee, Jessee(BR), Jessie(CR), Josie(CR), Kaetzell, Kensee, Krusee, Lenzie, Monsees, Muitzes Kill(STR), No-see-um(L), Pharisee, Ritzie, Rosie(CR), Rossie(LK), Schantzen(LK), Seeall, Seebarger, Seebaugh, Seebert, Seeburn Hazerig(L), Seeburs, Seefar, Seefeldt, Seeger(LK), Seeglitz, Seehafer, Seehorn(CR), Seekatz, Seekens, Seelander, Seelig, Seeling, Seeman, Seeneytown, Seepage(CR), Seery, Seesaw, Seeshore, Seestrom, Seewhy, Shipsee, Siebell(LK), Siebert, Siefert, Siegel(CR), Siemens(CR), Snetsinger(LK), Spitzer(LK), S(ch)weitzer, Ulyssee, Velenzuela(CR), Wetzel(CR), Woodmansee, Zealand(RV), Zeaclyff(LK)

Bledsoe(BR), Crusoe(LK), Hartsook(CR), Monsoon(LK), Sans Souci(LK), Sooner(RV), Soule(CR)

Conclusion

THE PURPOSE of this study was to demonstrate that the frequency of occurrence of the imbedded "see/su" sound elements in North American river/lake names of likely ancient Native American language origin is sufficient to show that this was a river/lake name-element in ancient names. Some ancient river/lake names may have omitted the "see/su" element and in others it could have been truncated or severely modified.

It is not easy to prove that these results have been interpreted correctly. The results are much clearer than in most ancient culture investigations. A possible problem is that the "see/su" elements are so simple that later lan

guages could have used these sounds for alternative meanings within the river/lake names. This idea is similar to the many claims for

"fraudulent artifacts" that have little, if any, substance. It is possible that Native American elders can shed some insight from traditional stories.

MY CONCLUSION is that the "see/su" river/lake name was brought to North American from Eurasia by migrating people who spread over the entire continent. The relatively uniform distribution tells us that most of this naming is very old. Geographical plots by sound-type could show some time layers for these visits. My perception is that the "see" names are slightly more common in the east and the "su" names are slightly more common in the west.

Additional data will likely support the worldwide diffusion suggested above. A comparison of frequencies of "see/su" elements in mountain names versus river/lake names might prove to some extent that the findings reported above are not random. Mountains, of course, can be named for rivers and vice versa.

Correspondence address:

Dr John J White, III
MES Editor
4865 Arthur Place
Columbus, Ohio 43220-3102
USA

e-mail: JJWhiteIII@AOL.com

REFERENCES

1. JJ White, "Earth Mother Sacred Language: A Key To Ancient Names Worldwide", *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(1), 23-33 (1996).
2. Cyclone Covey, "EMSL", *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 12/13, 63-75 (1998-99).
3. JJ White, "Self-Consistency of EMSL: The Case of the Words 'Man' and 'Ban'", *Midwestern Epigraphic Society* 12/13, 55-62 (1998-99).
4. Gertrude Jobes, Dictionary of Mythology Folklore and Symbols, The Scarecrow Press, New York, 1962, pp 1151-52.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John White was born in Arlington (Boston), Massachusetts, USA in 1939. Following World War II, his family moved to the Chicago area where he attended a model and therefore modern high school. His activities included boy scouts, baseball, and football. His family then moved to Atlanta, GA, and he elected to attend The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. He completed a BS in physics and obtained an Army ROTC commission in 1960. He was sports editor of the college newspaper and yearbook, ran on the track team, and was a member of Sigma Nu social fraternity. He then entered the graduate school of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. White received a PhD in experimental solid state physics in 1965 and completed his Army Reserve commitment. His research established his expertise on the ultraviolet optical properties of the silver halides. After a brief post-doctoral appointment, he served in the US Army as a mechanical engineer for two years at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD and advanced to the rank of Captain.

Science employment was limited by 1967, but he was fortunate to obtain an appointment as an Assistant Professor of Physics at the University of Georgia in Athens. Following in the footsteps of his graduate professor Dr Joseph Straley, he became an outstanding teacher of undergraduates and served as the supervisor of introductory physics laboratory instruction. During his six year tenure, he successfully developed and operated an apparatus for studying the occurrence of antiferromagnetism at liquid helium temperatures. He married Patricia Wagner of Rocky Mount, VA in 1968, and they subsequently raised two sons, John and Edmund. By 1973, academic physics jobs were unavailable, and John elected to work as an applied physicist and technologist in the US Cold War Military Industrial Complex.

He was first employed as a Senior Engineer for the BDM Corporation near Washington, DC. His assignments were in the areas of nuclear targeting analysis and the modeling of minefield defense against tanks. Concerned to find a good place to raise a family, he took a Principal Research Scientist position with the Ordnance Systems and Technology Department of Battelle Columbus Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio. He worked there until 1991 when he was able to retire from a career of fighting in the research aspects of the Cold War.

The bread and butter of his research group at Battelle was the development of technology for the

containment of terrorist bomb explosions (spherical steel vessels) and for the limitation of damage from the attack of the propellant of tank ammunition (ammunition storage compartments). He was involved with armor technology to defeat shaped charge jets, evaluation of the automotive and weapons technology of military systems, evaluation of the military potential of proposed new military systems, and evaluation of foreign science and technology. He was the project leader for a number of these developments and studies. He became a Professional Engineer in 1976 and served as director of the Battelle Ordnance Research Seminar for 10 years. His personal interest during this phase of his life was the coaching, officiating, and administration of track & field.

In 1991 his options were similar to those of 1973, except perhaps that he was burnt out from the demands of the contract research industry. He discovered the books and journals of Barry Fell and subsequently became involved with the activities of the Midwestern Epigraphic Society headquartered in Columbus, Ohio. He became the MES Newsletter Editor in 1991 and looked around extensively for a field of research within the broad topic of cultural diffusionism. He organized the first MES Research Symposium in February, 1994 and assumed the MES Journal Editorship in 1995. He has acquired a large library of used books on ancient culture, and he visits museums regularly with a camera in hand.

Learning about Barry Fell's interests, Phoenicians, ancient Irish, and finally the Burrows Cave trove of artifacts, he finally narrowed his interests to the meaning of the symbols occurring frequently in ancient art. The study of ancient symbols stimulated extensive study of classical ancient history. An inherent pattern of consistency among ancient sacred names syllables caught his attention around 1995, and by 1996 he was able to announce the discovery of an ancient naming system Earth Mother Sacred Language.¹⁻³ Dr White is a bonafide rocket scientist and a Mensan, but he claims that EMSL requires little more than common sense. In fact, it is the simplicity of EMSL that convinces him that he was lucky enough after 30+ years of research experience to recognize something so simple that it has to be the key to a wholly unknown chapter of man's existence.

AUTHOR'S MAIN PUBLICATIONS

- 1) JJ White, **Book Review of The Ancient Inscriptions of Paraguay by Jim Woodman**, South American Epigraphic Society Publication, 1989, ESOP 20, 25-6 (1991).
- 2) JJ White, **Ancient Egyptian Usage of the Ogam Bel Symbol**, Louisiana Mounds Society Newsletter, LMS #55, February 14, 1993, p 2.
- 3) JJ White, **Bel Symbol on a 19th Century Find: a Legacy from Isaac Vail (1840-1912)**, Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter 12(3), 1p (1995); Stonehenge Viewpoint Catalogue, Fall, 1995, p 19; Midwestern Epigraphic Journal 9, 22 (1995).
- 4) JJ White, **An Avid Phoenician Hunter Comments on Leprechauns, St Patrick, and Things Irish**, Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter 12(4), 1p (1995); Midwestern Epigraphic Journal 9, 79 (1995).

- 5) JJ White, **Is There a Phoenician Connection for Certain Ancient British Words?**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 9, 80 (1995); *Midwestern Epigraphic NL* 13(1), 1p (1996).
- 6) JJ White, **B-L Ogam Symbols in a Mediterranean Context: A Hint of Phoenician Usage of Proto-Ogam**, in *Celtic Connections*, ed by Donald L Cyr, Stonehenge Viewpoint, Santa Barbara, CA, 1996, pp 139-154, 179.
- 7) JJ White, **Earth Mother Sacred Language: A Key To Ancient Names Worldwide**, Preprint of a Lecture, MES Quarterly Meeting, Grove City, OH, August 11, 1996; *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(1), 23-33 (1996).
- 8) JJ White, **The Origin of the Word God: An Application of Ancient Albanian Spelling**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 13(3), 1p (1996); *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(1), 34 (1996).
- 9) JJ White, **Comments on the Goddess Names Mabonā and Eponā**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(1), 58 (1996); *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 14(1), 1p (1997).
- 10) JJ White, **The Meaning of the Word TAMANA: An Answer to Dr Vámos-Tóth Bátor**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 13(4), 2p (1996).
- 11) JJ White, **A New Interpretation for the Ancient Word 'Dragon'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 13(5), 2p (1996); *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(1), 67-68 (1996).
- 12) JJ White, **Ancient Celtic Usage of EMSL: Donegal, Takhelne, and Related Names**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 14(1), 2p (1997); *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(1), 73-74 (1996).
- 13) JJ White, **Linguistic Discussion of Devil Names**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(2), 63-64 (1996).
- 14) JJ White, **Gypsies: Strange Nomads from the Past**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(2), 65-66 (1996); *The ISAC Report* 1999(1), 9-10 (1999).
- 15) JJ White, **Comments on "A Triangular Stele from Cuenca" by Professor Barry Fell**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 10(2), 73 (1996).
- 16) JJ White, **Oklahoma Eponā is the Earth Mother**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 14(4), 1p (1997).
- 17) JJ White, **Comments on the Aleuts**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 11, 79 (1997).
- 18) JJ White, **Comments on the Deity Names Bona Deā and Manabozhō**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 11, 80 (1997).
- 19) JJ White, **Insight on the Word 'Wisdom'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 11, 93 (1997).
- 20) JJ White, **Restoration of Some Ancient Names I.**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 11, 98 (1997).

- 21) JJ White, **Speculation on the Origin of the Carthaginian Goddess Name 'Tanith'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 11, 105 (1997).
- 22) JJ White, **Origins of the 'Beothuk'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 11, 106 (1997).
- 23) JJ White, **Beowulf Wordsmithing**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 15(1), 1p (1998).
- 24) JJ White, **A Case of Suspected Fraud: Ogam Strokes on Clingmans Dome**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 15(4), 1p (1998).
- 25) JJ White, **The Primer on Earth Mother Sacred Language (EMSL) and Related Linguistic Papers**, Columbus, OH, 1st Ed, April 10, 1998, 20p.
- 26) JJ White, **Self-Consistency of EMSL: The Case of the Words 'Man' and 'Ban'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 12/13, 55-62 (1998-9).
- 27) JJ White, **Can an Elephant Be a Snake?: Clarifying an Ancient Name Usage**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Society* 12/13, 101-102 (1998-9).
- 28) JJ White, **Occurrence of 'Na-Na' Words: A Possible Test for EMSL Meaning**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 12/13, 135-136 (1998-9).
- 29) JJ White, **Report on Cherokee Snake Names**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 16(2), 1p (1999).
- 30) JJ White, **Insight into "Beyond the Pale": An Explanation of the Name 'Dublin'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 16(3), 1p (1999).
- 31) JJ White, **'Hebrew' is an EMSL Tribal Name**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 16(4), 1p (1999).
- 32) JJ White, **Restoration of the Words 'Anguis' and 'Angus'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(1), 1p (2000).
- 33) JJ White, **Comments on the Horse Creek Petroglyph**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(1), 2p (2000).
- 34) JJ White, **Some Hindi Language Names Explained Using Earth Mother Sacred Language**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(2), 1p (2000).
- 35) JJ White and BH Moseley, **Two More Examples of Non-Keltic Ogam: Inscriptions from Sweden and Babylonia**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(3), 1p (2000).
- 36) JP Leslie, BH Moseley, and JJ White, **Ohio Historical Society Slate Pendant Has Interesting Inscribed Marks**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(3), 1p (2000).
- 37) JJ White, **The Names of Three Megalithic Monuments: Speculation and Translation Using EMSL**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(3), 1p (2000).

- 38) JJ White, **In the Name of Zeus!**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(4), 1p (2000).
- 39) JJ White, **Secrets of the Kuna Earth Mother: Old EMSL Words Found in the New World**, Notes from the ISAC 2000 Meeting, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 17(4), 4p (2000).
- 40) JJ White, **Ancient Celtic Usage of EMSL: Part 2, Die Walschen und Die Schlangen**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 14, 2p (2000).
- 41) JJ White, **Restoration of the Names 'Adam' and 'Eve'**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 14, 1p (2000).
- 42) JJ White, **Observations About Some Chinese Words**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 14, 1p (2000).
- 43) JJ White, **Applications of Earth Mother Sacred Language**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Journal* 14, 4p (2000).
- 44) JJ White, **An Investigation of Ancient Weights: Iron Age Names Consistent with EMSL Origins**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 18(1), 1p (2001).
- 45) JJ White, **The Search for Indo-European Root Names**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 18(1), 1p (2001).
- 46) JJ White, **Improved Identification of Athena and Minerva**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 18(2), 1p (2001).
- 47) JJ White and BH Moseley, **Berber Stone Writing Compares Well With Burrows Cave Script**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 18(2), 1p (2001).
- 48) JJ White, **More to 'Bello' Than Meets the Eye**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 18(3), 1p (2001).
- 49) JJ White, **Eric Partridge, Lexicologist Extraordinaire: His Life, Career, and Some EMSL Linguistics**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 18(4), 2p (2001).
- 50) JJ White, **Diffusion of the Ancient "See/Su" Element from Eurasia to North America**, submitted to the *Migration and Diffusion Journal*, Wien, Austria, 2001, 11p.
- 51) JJ White, **Eric Partridge: From Sanskrit to Brazil, Comments on Some EMSL Linguistics Introduced**, *Midwestern Epigraphic Newsletter* 19(1), 2p (2002).