



# PLACE NAMES OF THE TAGISH REGION, SOUTHERN YUKON

Compiled by Mrs. Angela Sidney  
for the  
Yukon Native Languages Project  
Council for Yukon Indians  
1980

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Cover Photo of Angela Sidney

by Jim Robb

## Introduction

This booklet has been prepared to accompany the map Place Names of the Tagish Region, Southern Yukon, compiled by Mrs. Angela Sidney.

Mrs. Sidney is well known in the southern Yukon as a narrator of traditional stories and as a teacher of Tagish and Tlingit customs. Born in 1902, she grew up speaking both Tagish and Tlingit languages and is one of the last remaining speakers of the Tagish Athapaskan language. She considers it important to maintain the traditions she learned as a child, and for that reason she has become involved in a number of projects during the past few years - preparing booklets of stories, teaching traditional dances and songs to young people, performing as the singer with the Carcross Indian dancers, working with teachers in the Carcross school.

During the summer of 1980, Mrs. Sidney and I travelled throughout the southern Yukon by car, boat and train making a record of place names she remembers and traditions associated with those places. We drove along roads bordering the lakes - the Alaska Highway, Tagish road, Atlin road, Skagway road, Carcross road. We travelled by boat along Tagish Lake and Marsh Lake, well south of the Yukon-British Columbia border, and by train

along Bennett Lake. Mrs. Sidney pointed out significant features of the landscape and we recorded them on topographical maps, transcribing the Tagish and Tlingit names for each site.

The names are recorded in two distinct languages - Tagish Athapaskan and Tlingit. Linguists Jeffrey Leer (from the Alaska Native Language Center) and John Ritter (Director of the Yukon Native Languages Project) developed standardized spellings for the place names in ways consistent with linguistic work being done in the Yukon and Alaska. The order in which names were given is indicated in each case by the raised numbers 1 or 2.

The maps were prepared by the Mapping Division, Council for Yukon Indians, on plastic overlays which can be used with 1:250,000 topographic map sheets. Each place name is assigned a number and Mrs. Sidney's description of each site is included in this booklet.

Mrs. Sidney has recorded names and places as she remembers them. Her perspective as a woman may differ from that of men, who travelled and hunted more widely than women, but as one of the last speakers of Tagish her map is uniquely complete.

This project is part of the Yukon Native Languages Project's continuing interest in traditional place names. The importance of recording native place names was noted by the earliest travellers and map-makers in the Yukon. A journalist sponsored by an American newspaper wrote:

"Throughout my letter I have retained the native names of geographical points wherever I could learn them. In my opinion, this should always be studied. The Indian names of the mountains, lakes and rivers are natural landmarks for the traveller, whoever he may be; to destroy these by substituting words of a foreign tongue is to destroy the natural guides. You ask for some point and mention its native name; your Indian guide will take you there. Ask for the same place in your substituted English and you will not be understood. Travelling in Alaska has already sufficient difficulties, and they should not be increased by changing all the picturesque Indian names. Another very good reason why these names should be preserved is that some tradition of tribal importance is always connected with them. These people have no written language, but the retention of their native names is an excellent medium through which to learn their history."\*

Glave's advice is still important almost a century later, although many who followed him were more interested in assigning their own names to geographical features.

In 1980, we can still learn a great deal from older men and women about details of history, land use, territories and trails travelled by different families, special hunting and fishing sites used on the annual cycle, traditional stories associated with place names and the persistence of native languages in the Yukon Territory.

Julie Cruikshank, December, 1980

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\*E.J. Glave, "Our Alaska Expedition", Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, November 22, 1890

NUMBER 1

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Témil Shó

Geiwú Tlein Eetí

"big fishnet "

"big fishnet place"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Head of the Yukon River

DESCRIPTION:

Before the Marsh Lake Dam was built, there used to be two or three sloughs here, at the head of the Yukon River. People would come to fish here in spring - particularly Tagish people, Marsh Lake people and people from further down the river near present day Whitehorse.

Southern Yukon society is divided into two broad kin divisions, Wolf and Crow: Mrs. Sidney remembers that Whitehorse Billy told her ~~Wolf~~ <sup>Crow</sup> people claimed the river from Marsh Lake to Whitehorse.

NUMBER 2

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Témil Chídlé

--

"little fishnet"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Slough near the head of Yukon River

DESCRIPTION:

This is the first slough above the Marsh Lake Dam (on the east side of the river, adjacent to the Alaska Highway). In spring, when Marsh Lake began to rise, people would put in sinew fishnets here after sunset, pull them out before sunrise, and then dry the fish they had caught. It was a good spot to catch ling cod and pike. According to Whitehorse Billy, it was claimed by members of the Wolf division or "moiety".

NUMBER 3

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Mbésh Ta'áy

Lítaa Yak'áts'i Shaa

"where a knife (edge)  
extends out"

"knife edge mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mountain just west of McClintock River, projecting  
toward Marsh Lake.

DESCRIPTION:

As people travelled north on Marsh Lake by boat from Tagish,  
this hill which extends out at the foot of Marsh Lake  
appeared as a sharp 'knife edge' against the water.



NUMBER 4

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT<sup>1</sup>

Géis Tóo'e'

T'ahéeni

"king salmon river"

"king salmon river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

McClintock River

DESCRIPTION:

People from Marsh Lake, Tagish and Lake Laberge used to meet here in summer at a fishcamp several miles up the McClintock River. For many years there was a fish trap at this spot.

Annual routes followed by Tagish people who used this fishtrap were very much influenced by the availability of fish at different locations in different seasons.

NUMBER 5

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Sáa Tl'áh Ní

T'ahéeni Wát

"sandy beach"

"mouth of king  
salmon river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Marsh Lake (north end)

DESCRIPTION:

Marsh Lake people had their main camp here. They claim affiliation with the Gaanaxteidí clan (a clan within the Crow moiety) and spoke Tagish language. The Marsh Lake chief Kwanaaták (Marsh Lake Jackie) was of the Crow division, Gaanaxteidí sib. He died before Mrs. Sidney's time. There was once a potlatch house at this place.

NUMBER 6

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Shásh ʔahí

Xutsnoowú

"bear den"

"brown bear fort"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Unnamed island on Marsh Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This island looks like a bear den from the distance.  
Some major topographical features in this area have  
Tlingit names, probably because Tlingits travelled on  
Marsh Lake, when they made trading expeditions inland.

NUMBER 7

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Tséi Jah

Té X'aayí Lutú

"rock point"

point            inside  
                     nose

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A rocky point on the west side of Marsh Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Approximately halfway down the west side of Marsh Lake, is a rocky point from which people used to catch their first glimpse of the sandy beach at the end of Marsh Lake.

Mrs. Sidney tells a story about a woman who turned into Otter at this point. One old lady stayed here while men went hunting; when they came back she had disappeared but all her clothing and possessions remained. Years later, they saw evidence that she had been taken away by Otter people. This happened frequently on the coast, but only at this one place in Tagish country (see Mrs. Sidney's book Tagish Tlagu to be published by the Council for Yukon Indians).

More recently, Mrs. Sidney says, people were bothered by bushmen here. To escape, women hid the men under blankets in a boat, so the bushmen would not attack, and rowed on to the sandy beach at the end of Marsh Lake.

NUMBER 8

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Téhzáa Chó {Sáye'  
                  {Leije'

"big otter sandbar"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Kooshdaa Xágu

"land otter sandbar"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Beach on west side of Marsh Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This is a gravel beach on the west side of Marsh Lake, some distance south of the rocky point (# 7). The exact location is not clear because of high water when we made our boat trip, but it is approximately as marked on the map. Mrs. Sidney's daughter Mabel (Baker) was born here.

NUMBER 9

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

(1) T'asé Mbét

\*Keshuwaa Héeni

"grayling creek"

"grayling creek"

(2) Tuhndáa' T'óh Ní

"bald eagle nest"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Grayling Creek (on 1:50,000 map)

DESCRIPTION:

Early in spring, people went to Témil Shó (#1) and after they caught fish there they moved on to this creek where Grayling spawn.

\* The Tlingit name appears to be a translation of the Tagish name rather than a name used regularly to identify the creek.

NUMBER 10

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Ch'óh Désk'es      Ní

--

"porcupine quill makes noise"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A point of land on the east side of Marsh Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This is a sharp point of land visible from the Alaska Highway.

Mrs. Sidney explains, "somebody must have sewed with porcupine quills there. The quill makes a noise like k'es when you flatten it because the end explodes open".

NUMBER 11

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Kuk'ahéeni K'átsk'u

"small fish tail (?) creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mouth of a creek emptying into Marsh Lake from the east side.

DESCRIPTION:

David Hammond lived at the mouth of this creek. When fish jumped around they made a noise with their tails and that's why they named this creek Kuk'ahéeni K'átsk'u. (see also Number 12).



NUMBER 12

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Kuk'ahéeni Tlein

"big fish tail (?) creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Judas Creek

DESCRIPTION:

Judas Creek was known as Kuk'ahéeni Tlein - "big fish tail (?) creek" - again because people said that fish jumped around at the mouth of the creek, making a noise with their tails.

NUMBER 13

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Nústséhé Kí'í

Naagas'éi Noowú

"fox den"

"fox fort"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A hill on the east side of Marsh Lake, just north of  
Tagish Narrows

DESCRIPTION:

This is a small hill behind a slough on Marsh Lake,  
just north of Tagish Narrows, named this way because  
there used to be fox dens there.

NUMBER 14

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Tuhndáa' T'óh Ní

"bald eagle nest point"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Ch'áak' X'aayí  
"bald eagle point"

or Ch'áak' Kúdi X'aayí

"bald eagle nest point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A point on the west side of Marsh Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This point is named for the eagle's nest there.

NUMBER 15

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

K'ayé Desdél Ní

or

K'adesdél Ní

"red willow point"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Sheix'w X'aayí

"red alder point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Point on west side of Marsh Lake

DESCRIPTION:

As you travel north on Marsh Lake from Tagish Bridge, by boat, this is the second point on the west side. At high water, the point is submerged and only the branches show where it is located. The translation is alternately "red alder/red willow point" but the present branches are willow.

NUMBER 16

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

K'aláa Ní  
or K'ay' Láa Ní

Ch'áal' X'aayí

"willow point"

"willow point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A point on the west side of Marsh Lake, near Tagish  
Bridge

DESCRIPTION:

This is the first willow point extending out into Marsh  
Lake, on the west side, just north of the Tagish Narrows.

NUMBER 17

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tl'ó K'aa' Dzéle'

Chookanshaa

"grass blade mountain"

"grass mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

The mountain northeast of Jake's corner, just north of the Alaska Highway:



DESCRIPTION:

This mountain, which continues for some distance north of the Alaska Highway, sits north and west of an old trail from Tagish and Little Atlin to the Teslin River. The translation of the name refers to the 'horse tail grass' plants which grow there, and it is also sometimes translated just as "grassy mountain".

NUMBER 18

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tsámháa'a

Sinwaa

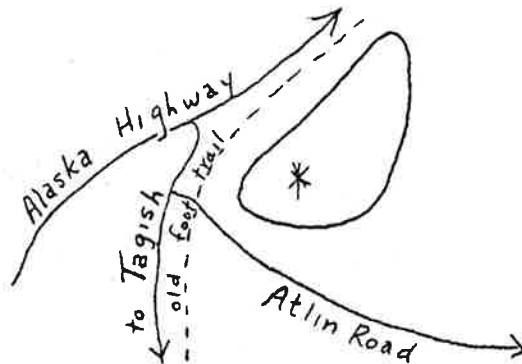
"grey ridge"

"grey ridge"

(from Athapaskan)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

The mountain southeast of Jakes Corner between the Alaska Highway and the Atlin Road, excluding the first mountain peak:



DESCRIPTION:

This mountain was a source of red ochre; people burned the rock until a red powder remained and used the powder as a dye. The dye was used to produce a paint for decorating potlatch houses and for colouring snowshoes. Patches of red soil are visible on the side of the mountain.

NUMBER 19

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

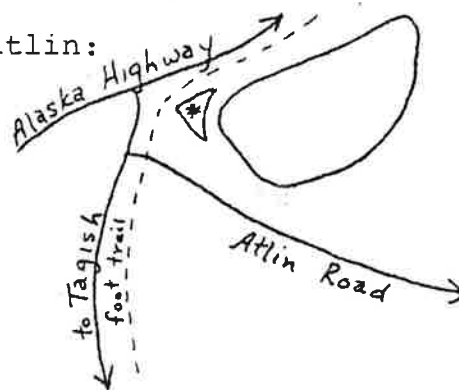
Shgáa T'óh

"bird nest"

(Species not yet identified)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

The single peak separated from Sinwaa, adjacent to the Tagish Road and the turn-off to Atlin:



DESCRIPTION:

People in this area travelled mostly by lake, but there was a foot trail from Little Atlin Lake to Hootelinqua between Sinwaa and Shgáa T'óh, on the south side and Chookanshaa on the north side. Mrs. Sidney explains:

"Tagish people in springtime go down to Skagway to buy some stuff, like beads, calico, thread, stuff like that. After they come back from Skagway, they start travelling like that. They go to Hootelinqua then. They fish there for salmon or else go to Big Salmon Lake. Whenever snow comes down from the mountains they travel like that until they get to Pelly River where Ross River people are. After they sell what they're going to sell, they buy some fur too; whatever they catch, too, on the way. They make deadfall traps, therefore



NUMBER 19 (continued)

they don't pack steel traps... Then they travel back  
on snowshoes with skin toboggan. On skin toboggan  
they pull their sleigh. Springtime.

By the time they get to Skagway, it's beaver season".

NUMBER 20

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Skwáan Taasléyi

Skwáan Áayi

"Squan's pikefish"

"Squan's lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Squan Lake (marked on 1:50,000 map) half way  
between Jake's Corner and Squanga Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Squan found pikefish in that lake. That's why they  
named it after him. Squan was of the Deisheetaan clan  
so the lake belongs to Deisheetaan people.

NUMBER 21

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tadedéze'

(see below)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A lake on the summit of the pass between Jake's Corner  
and the Teslin River

DESCRIPTION:

The Tagish name is translated as "it's wavy all the  
time" because of the winds on the summit of this pass.  
The foot trail from Tagish and Little Atlin Lake to the  
Teslin River passed by this lake.

NUMBER 22

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Kwáchq̓ Tsits'éne'

"ling cod skull"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Kaa Léelk'u Shakanóox'u

"one's grandmother's  
skull"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

"Streak Mountain", north of Squanga Lake.

DESCRIPTION:

Mrs. Sidney translates this name as "ling cod fish/grandmother's skull". She says people used to call ling cod "grandma" because flesh hangs from its lip giving it the appearance of an old woman with a labret, and because "cod fish is built like a human being". The mountain is visible from the Alaska Highway, across Squanga Lake.

NUMBER 23

TAGISH \*

Desgwáage Méne'

"whitefish lake"

TLINGIT \*

Dasgwaanga Áayi

"whitefish lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Squanga Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Dasgwaanga is the name of a whitefish caught here.

There is no direct translation to English; Mrs. Sidney calls them "little humpbacks".

\* Mrs. Sidney says Tagish and Tlingit languages have the same name for this fish.

NUMBER 24

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Dahmbet      Setąą

"our stomach is lying"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Daleiyí    Aayi

"trout lake"

or: Kaa    Yoowú    At    Satin    Yé

"where a stomach is lying"

(Tlingit translation from  
Tagish)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Dalayee Lake (on 1:50,000 map), directly south of  
Squanga Lake.

DESCRIPTION:

Mrs. Sidney explains: "It's got lots of fish, just like it's  
got lunch there all the time - whitefish, pike, trout.

Billy Hall used to call it 'Trout Lake'."

NUMBER 25

TAGISH 1

TLINGIT

Gwáan Desdéle'

- blood

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Little Teslin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Mrs. Sidney explains that the fish caught here have reddish skins and that's why people give the lake this name.

NUMBER 26

TAGISH \*

Desgwáage Tóo'e'

"whitefish creek"

TLINGIT \*

Dasgwaanga Héeni

"whitefish creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Squanga Creek

DESCRIPTION:

Dasgwaanga is the name of "a little humpback fish"  
caught here (as in Squanga Lake).

\* The name is pronounced the same way in Tagish and Tlingit.



NUMBER 27

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Dasgwaanga Tóoli

"whitefish hill"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Hill north east of Squanga Lake, visible from the  
Alaska Highway.

DESCRIPTION:

The hill, like the creek, takes its name from the Lake.

NUMBER 28

TAGISH \*

Dedeslíni

"water running off"

TLINGIT \*

Deisleen Íxde Naadaayí

\*Teslin running downstream"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Teslin River

DESCRIPTION:

The name is given because, "this river runs off to join the Yukon River".

\* The river has the same name in both languages.

NUMBER 29

TAGISH 1 \*

T'ásé Gháa Ch'íche'i Yé

"place where they  
cried for grayling"

TLINGIT 2

T'asé Daadé Aawagaaxi Yé

"place where they cried  
for grayling"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Johnson's Crossing

DESCRIPTION:

This refers to a place just upriver from the bridge at Johnson's Crossing. "Somebody cried for t'asa (grayling) there. Maybe one person ate it up by themselves and someone else cried for it".

\* Gives Tagish first, but says it's the same in both languages.

NUMBER 30

TAGISH 2

Dzéł Chó

"big mountain"

TLINGIT 1

Shaa Tlein

"big mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Hayes Peak

DESCRIPTION:

Situated directly across Teslin Lake from Brooks Brook,  
this mountain is known locally as "baldy mountain".

NUMBER 31

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Ségé T'óh

"golden eagle nest"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Gijukkúdi

"golden eagle nest"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Peak on the east side of the Canol Road, near the  
beginning of the road

DESCRIPTION:

The road follows an old trail which passes between this  
peak and another west of the valley.

NUMBER 32

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Dákwas'aa

S'aax Shaayí

"there are game on top"

"groundhog mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Peak on the west side of the South Canol Road, near  
the beginning of the road

DESCRIPTION:

Mrs. Sidney is not absolutely certain whether the two  
names refer to the same mountain or to two separate  
mountains.

NUMBER 33

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Deslíní

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Nilaseen

or

Nisaleen

(probably from Athapaskan)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Nisutlin River

DESCRIPTION:

The two Tlingit names appear to be interchangeable.

NUMBER 34

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Lúu Chó Méne'

"big fish lake"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Xáat Tlein Áayi

"big fish lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Little Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

People used to come here to fish in April as soon as fish were available. This lake was well known for its variety of fish - whitefish, trout, grayling, pike, ling cod, suckers.

When men went on long hunting trips in winter, they left older women and women with children at Tagish; these women and children would then move on to this lake in spring where they could be sure of finding food.



NUMBER 35

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tséi Chó Desdéł Ní

"big red rock"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Large rock at the north end of Little Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This name, in Tagish language only refers to a large rock which used to appear red from the lake. In the past, when people travelled regularly on this lake, (before the construction of roads), the rock was visible from the water; however poplar has grown up in front of the rock, and it would no longer be visible from the lake.

When people crossed from Kídéeténé' (#36), they picked up the trail just below this rock and tied up their boats here. People used to leave presents beside this rock "for luck" because the rock is described in traditional stories as a person who turned to stone.

NUMBER 36

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Kidéeténe'

Dei Daak Gashóowu Yé

"where the trail comes out"

"where the trail comes out"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Place where a trail from Tagish reaches Little Atlin Lake on the north-west side.

DESCRIPTION:

This is the point at which the trail from Tagish reached Little Atlin Lake. Patsy Henderson used to have a house here. Tagish people used to walk here from the settlement at Tagish, cross the lake, pick up the trail at Oonáa Tóo'e' (#38) and carry on to Hootelinqa.

NUMBER 37

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tuhndáa' T'óh Ní

"eagle nest point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Point on west side of Little Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This is a point "about a quarter of a mile beyond"  
(south of) Kídéeténe' (#36). There used to be an  
eagle nest there.

NUMBER 38

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Óonáa Tóo'e'

"round whitefish creek"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Óon Héeni

"round whitefish creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Little Atlin Creek

DESCRIPTION:

This is a stream on the east side of Little Atlin Lake where "round whitefish" spawn.

Mrs. Daisy Smith has a cabin there; her brother Scotty Jim also had a cabin here. Mrs. Sidney identified people buried in the graveyard nearby as Tagish Jim, his mother (Mrs. Dennis), his wife (Tesht'oma'), and Charley Brown's son.

NUMBER 40

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Mbésh Té'ets'ét Ní

"where a knife fell  
into the water"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Lítaa Héent Uwaxixi

"where a knife fell  
into the water"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Point of land on Little Atlin Lake, just north of  
the narrows

DESCRIPTION:

When people travelled on the lake by boat, this  
projection of land appeared like a sharp knife on  
its edge on the horizon.

NUMBER 39

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Édíchaa Ní

"where one keeps oneself  
company (occupied)"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Áx' Sh Tududlitleiwu Yé

"where one keeps oneself  
company (occupied)"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mouth of stream on east side of Little Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This was one of the earliest spring fishing spots because a warm spring empties into the lake at this point and thaws the ice. After people completed their fishing here, they moved south to the narrows.

NUMBER 41

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

T'ées Nídesgáy Ní

Duk X'aayí

"cottonwood point"

"cottonwood point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A point of land at the mouth of Haunka Creek

DESCRIPTION:

Old Mr. Hall used to have a trail, coming to Little Atlin Lake from the east, which ended at this point. He kept his boat frame and skins here and would return to this point in mid-June, after muskrat season, and then go on to Tagish. There was also a winter trail here.

Angela Sidney remembers coming here in 1933; she and Mr. Sidney took her mother, Maria, with them by sleigh.

NUMBER 42

TAGISH 2

T'ées Tóo'e'

"cottonwood creek"

TLINGIT 1

Dúk Héeni

"cottonwood creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Haunka Creek

DESCRIPTION:

In both Tagish and Tlingit languages, the creek is named for the poplars on the point "where the trail comes out".



NUMBER 43

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Táatígí Chó

"big narrows"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

The first (northern) narrows on Little Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

People used to go here after fishing a Edíchaa Ní (#39) and this narrows was considered a good place to catch trout. Mrs. Sidney says it thaws here early in spring, too. The water is very deep in the middle of the narrows.

NUMBER 44

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Táatígí Chídlé

"little narrows"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Taatigi K'atsgu

"little Taatigi"

or Ixde Aa Taatigi

"lower Taatigi"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Second (lower) narrows on Little Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Tlingit Taatigi is from Athapaskan.

NUMBER 45

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Agáy Tóo'e'

"wolf creek"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Gooch Héeni

"wolf creek"

or Gooch Xáadi

"wolf's fish"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Snafu/Tarfu Creek \*

DESCRIPTION:

When fish are spawning, wolves come here to kill them.

\* Mrs. Sidney is not certain which name goes with  
Snafu and which with Tarfu Lake.

NUMBER 46

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Ágáy Méne'

"wolf lake"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Gooch Áayi

"wolf lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Snafu/Tarfu \*

DESCRIPTION:

Named for the creek where wolves come.

\* See note for #45.

NUMBER 47

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Nústséhé Tóo'e'

"fox creek"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Naagas'éi Héeni

"fox creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Snafu/Tarfu \*

DESCRIPTION:

When fish are spawning, foxes come to this creek to get food.

\* See note for #45.

NUMBER 48

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Nústséhé Méne'

Naagas'éí Aayi

"fox lake"

"fox lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Snafu/Tarfu \*

DESCRIPTION:

Named for the creek where foxes come.

\* See note for #45.

NUMBER 49

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

K'éezhén

(translation unknown)

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

K'iyán

possibly "hemlock  
(growing) at base"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Jubilee Mountain/Mount Minto

DESCRIPTION:

People refer to this mountain by the English name "Jubilee Mountain" although it is shown on some topographical maps as "Mount Minto".

People of the Yanyeidí clan own K'iyán. Mrs. Sidney says that one time when her husband, George Sidney, was driving several people of the Deisheetaan clan to Atlin, he stopped the car at K'iyán, ordered everyone out and told them to dance to K'iyán because he is Yanyeidí. After this, they continued on their way.

NUMBER 50

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Mén Chó

"big lake"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Aa Tlein

"big lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Atlin Lake

DESCRIPTION:

People used to travel down Atlin Lake from Tagish.



NUMBER 51

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Dágáy Ndáage'

"swan eyes"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Gúkl'i Áayi

"swan lake"

or Gúkl'i Waak Eetí

"swan eyes place"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Small lake on the south side of the road between  
Jake's Corner and Tagish

DESCRIPTION:

Swans always pass over this lake on their annual  
migration.

NUMBER 52

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tóok'ats Tóo'e'

Goon Héeni

"cold water creek"

"spring creek"

("cold water 'spring'")

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Chinook Creek (marked on 1:50,000 map)

DESCRIPTION:

This creek drains from Dágáy Ndáage' (#51) to Marsh Lake. People always camped there when they passed by because of the good water.

NUMBER 53

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tóo Desdléije

"gray-coloured, muddy water"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mile Creek (marked on 1:50,000 map)

DESCRIPTION:

This stream drains into Marsh Lake about two miles from Tagish bridge (east side). Locally, people refer to it as "three mile creek". There is a meadow upstream where people used to camp, and some houses have recently been built here by Carcross families.

NUMBER 54

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Taagish Tóo'e'

break-up (of ice, e.g.) - water

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Taagish Héeni

"Tagish river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Tagish Narrows

DESCRIPTION:

Before the Marsh Lake Dam was built, the water level in Tagish narrows must have been much lower. Mrs. Sidney describes it:

"In the spring the mud was just as hard as a board and we used to run around and pick up rocks. The water didn't used to rise as quickly as it does now, because now they close the dam right away. In July it used to stop rising and it stayed high until the glaciers stopped running. Just think how many glaciers are running into that lake, how many glacier creeks! It used to come up high in summer, but not as high as it does now".

Tlingit Taagish is from Athapaskan.

NUMBER 55

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Taagish Tóoli

"Tagish hill"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Hill between Tagish narrows and Little Atlin Lake.

DESCRIPTION:

This is the "fire look-out mountain", the peak where the fire tower stands. The rest of the mountain has a series of other names.

NUMBER 56

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Nústséhé Dzéle'

Naagas'éí Shaayí

"fox mountain"

"fox mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Jubilee Mountain (as identified on some maps; others give this name to a mountain near the Yukon/British Columbia border).

DESCRIPTION:

This is the place where people were camped when Fox came and told them where to put their hook in water. See Mrs. Angela Sidney's booklet of stories Tagish Tlagu to be published by the Council for Yukon Indians. Fox reportedly saved this family and is responsible for giving names to a number of points on Tagish Lake.

NUMBER 57

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Te X'aayí

"rock point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A rocky point on the east side of Tagish Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This name refers to a rocky point which extends out in front of a bay.

NUMBER 58

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

K'aa' Deitl'óoní

"where arrows are tied  
in a bundle"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Chooneit Wusi.axu Yé

"where arrows are tied  
in a bundle"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Small 'island' sometimes joined to the shore by a narrow strip of land; east side of Tagish Lake.

DESCRIPTION:

This is known locally as "frying pan island" because it is a round 'island' attached to the shore by a narrow 'handle' when the water is low.

In a traditional Tagish story, Fox came to people who had lost their winter's supply of food and told them to fish at this place. He is credited with naming this and other points on the lake. (See Mrs. Angela Sidney's booklet of stories Tagish Tlagu to be published by the Council for Yukon Indians.)



NUMBER 59

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

K'aa' Deitl'óoní Dzéle'

Chooneit Shaayí

"where-arrows-are-tied  
in-a-bundle's mountain"

"arrow mountain"  
(translation from  
Athapaskan)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Western extension of "Jubilee Mountain".

DESCRIPTION:

The mountain takes its name from the island in front of it.

NUMBER 60

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Gooch Naawú X'aayí

"Dead Wolf's point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Point on the east side of Taku Arm

DESCRIPTION:

This point, at the mouth of a river, is also known as "Billy Bone Point; Billy Bone's Indian name was "Dead Wolf" (Gooch Naawú). He had a trapline and a trapping cabin here. He came from Tagish people (Tagish John's sister's son) and married an Atlin woman; after his marriage he began to live and travel around the Atlin area.

Gooch Naawú X'aayí was known as a good fishnet point.

NUMBER 61

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tséi Líné

stone ?

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Alfred Butte

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 62

TAGISH 2

TLINGIT 1

Shásh Ke'

S'ikx'oosí

"bear foot"

"bear foot"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

East side of Taku Arm

DESCRIPTION:

The location is not absolutely clear because of high water when we made our boat trip, but is approximately as marked. The rock has this name because it looks like a bear foot. People used to hunt here.

NUMBER 63

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Dzéł Zháazhé

Shaak'w Yádi

"little mountain"

"little mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Cloutier Peak (just south of Yukon/British Columbia border).

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 64

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Látáy'aa

"slough"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tadaha.aa (?)

"portage ?"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Talaha Bay

DESCRIPTION:

This is the water route extending from Édéchine' (#101) on to Atlin. People crossed by foot from Windy Arm, and then went on by boat.

NUMBER 65

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Kwáchóq Méne'

"ling cod lake"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

S'áax' Aayi

"ling cod lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Small lake draining to Taku Arm, across Yukon/British Columbia border.

DESCRIPTION:

The description makes it the first lake (of several) above Taku Arm, directly in from of S'áax Tóoli (#66).

Tagish Kwáchóq means both "grandmother" and "ling cod"; see number 22 for further explanation.

NUMBER 66

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Kwáchq̓

"ling cod"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

S'áax Tóoli

"ling cod hill"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Hill visible at the end of Taku Arm

DESCRIPTION:



NUMBER 67

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Kwákah Dzéle'

"on-top mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mount Lanning

DESCRIPTION:

Animal Mother or Game Mother made camps on three different mountains after she gave birth to game animals. First, she camped above Carcross (see #93). Secondly, she stopped here, at Mount Lanning, but was uncomfortable with the initial spot she chose and moved to an adjoining cirque (see #68). Third, she camped at Three Aces Mountain, near Teslin. Mrs. Sidney adds, "from here there may have been more (camps) but I don't know them". See Mrs. Sidney's story "Game Mother" in her book, My Stories Are My Wealth, pages 90 - 92.

NUMBER 68

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Yatseeneit Tláa Ta.eetí

"animal mother's sleeping  
place"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Cirque on Mount Lanning

DESCRIPTION:

When Game Mother stopped to rest for the second time  
in a cirque on Mount Lanning, she was uncomfortable  
and moved to an adjoining cirque at this place.

NUMBER 69

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

--

T'ooch' Áayi

"black lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Tutshi Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This lake is said to be inhabited by a monster. Jimmy Scotty once saw two moose sucked into a whirl pool here; later, he saw their lungs float to the surface of the lake.

Mrs. Angela Sidney thinks that Tlingit people sometimes used to travel this way by trail taking a short-cut to Log Cabin. She never travelled this way herself, because the railroad to Skagway was built two years before she was born.

NUMBER 70

TAGISH

--

TLINGIT

T'ooch' Héeni

"Black river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Tutshi River

DESCRIPTION:

The river is named for the lake which drains to Tagish Lake.

NUMBER 71

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Gáásé Ney'áa { Yé  
                  { Ní

"place where jackpine stand"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

L'él Tlein Anax

Naashoowu Yé

"place where jackpine  
stand"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Stand of jackpine north of the outlet of Tutshi River

DESCRIPTION:

Angela Sidney is not clear about the exact location of this stand of trees, because the vegetation has changed considerably over the years. However, this place has an unusually tall stand of pine about a mile or two "Tagish side" of Tutshi River. She says there is a hot-spring somewhere in this area.

NUMBER 72

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Gáanuuláa

--

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Squaw Point (on 1:50,000 map).

DESCRIPTION:

People stopped to camp here regularly when travelling on the lake and it is said to be a good moose lick.

NUMBER 73

TAGISH

--

TLINGIT

S'igeidí Héénák'u

Héeni

"beaver creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Stream entering Taku Arm from the west.

DESCRIPTION:

Angela Sidney says that this stream was named by Andrew James. She identifies its location in relation to "Pine Point" (see #75). It drains a beaver swamp.

NUMBER 74

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Chaa' Méne'

"beaver lake"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

S'igeidí Áayi

"beaver lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A small swamp or lake at the head of S'igeidí Héeni,  
(#73) apparently too small to be marked on a topographic  
map.

DESCRIPTION:



NUMBER 75

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Gáąsé Núuláą

"pine point"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

L'ál X'aayí

"pine point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A projection of land on the west side of Taku Arm

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 76

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Shaltláax

"mouldy head"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Submerged rock, south of "Duck Island" (#77) on Taku Arm

DESCRIPTION:

This is a dangerous submerged rock, visible when the water is low. It looks grey and mouldy. It used to show in spring and sometimes in summer when the water was low.

NUMBER 77

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Gáaxw X'áat'i

"duck island"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Small islands near northwest of Taku Arm

DESCRIPTION:

People used to get duck eggs here.

NUMBER 78

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Kaajinéek' Teiyí

"Kaajineek's rock"

(that is, Tagish John's rock)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Rock at the head of Tagish Narrows, submerged at high water.

DESCRIPTION:

Tagish John claimed this rock for Wolf people, and from that time on it was known as his rock. Whenever he caught fish from that rock he would "potlatch it all" (give it all away).

NUMBER 79

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Tsós Tséi'e'

"sawbill duck rock"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Kaax Teiyí

"sawbill duck rock"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

This rock is south-west of Tagish Narrows and is known locally as "White Rock"

DESCRIPTION:

In oral tradition, this rock was said to be a man who married a woman. There was some trouble in their marriage and he moved away and became a rock. She became a rock in Scotia Bay (across Atlin Lake from Atlin).

NUMBER 80

TAGISH

--

TLINGIT

Taagish Sháak

"head of Tagish"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Head of Tagish Narrows

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 81

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

K'asmbáa Dzéle'

"ptarmigan mountain"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

X'eis'awáa Shaayí

"ptarmigan mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mount Lansdowne

DESCRIPTION:

This is an extensive range of hills behind Tagish.  
A trail passing by the foot of this mountain runs  
through to Robinson, on the Carcross Road.

NUMBER 82

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Shásh zéitígí

"bear throat"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Xóots Leitóox

Xóots Leituxká

"bear windpipe"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

The name given to the pass between Tagish and Carcross,  
now followed by the road

DESCRIPTION:

This has always been a foot trail and is so named  
because "the wind is always blowing that way". This  
is the trail on which Skookum Jim was camped when he  
had his famous dream which led to the discovery of  
Klondike gold (see Tagish Tlagu, by Angela Sidney, to  
be published by the Council for Yukon Indians).



NUMBEI 8

TAGISH 1

Ejéi'

"heart"

TLINGIT 2

Kaa Téx' Shaayi

"heart mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Nares Mountain (eastern peak)

DESCRIPTION:

This mountain peak is visible through a pass as you drive from Carcross to Tagish; it is the second peak south of Crag Lake. The peak of the mountain has this name because it is heart shaped.

NUMBER 84

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Ségé T'óh Dzéle'

"golden eye eagle nest"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Gijukḵúdi

"golden eye eagle nest"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A mountain west of Crag Lake, The road passes by the  
edge of this mountain

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 85

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Mátáa Déh'aash

"game gather there, go through"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A mountain behind (and joined with) Ségé T'oh Dzéle'  
(#84).

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 86

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

T'eish Núulăă

T'ooch' Lutú

"charcoal (black) point"

"charcoal (black) point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Coal Creek (on 1:50,000 map) drains into Tagish Lake

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 87

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Yeikunashéen Aani

"Yeikunashéen's land"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Refers to a piece of shoreline on Nares Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Yeikunashéen "going down looking" is the name of Mary Smarch who was born at this place.

NUMBER 88

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

T'asé Méne'

"grayling lake"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Keshuwaa Áayi

"grayling lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Chooutla Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Mrs. Sidney says "Chooutla" is an Indian name, but from "Dawson language" brought by Bishop Stringer; "Chu" is the name for water in that language.

NUMBER 89

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Médzíh Dzéle'

"caribou mountain"

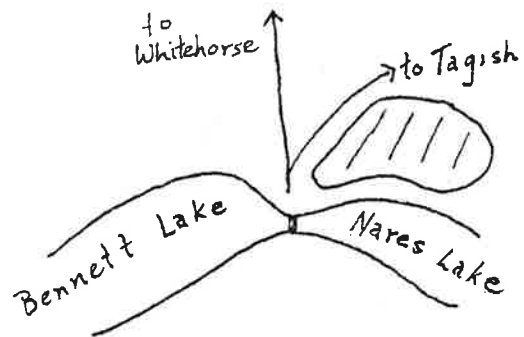
TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Watsix Shaayí

"caribou mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Nares Mountain.



DESCRIPTION:

This mountain is also sometimes called "Fourth of July Mountain".

NUMBER 90

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Métáatl'e Shéch'ée

(from - Táatl'áage, "forehead")

"wind blowing on the forehead"

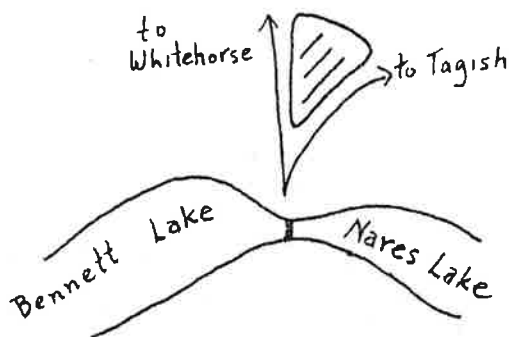
TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Yaadéwduwanúk

"blowing against the face"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Caribou Mountain:



DESCRIPTION:

This is one of the mountains from which Game Mother/  
Animal Mother hung her trampoline, next to "Golden Eagle  
Mountain" (see Mrs. Sidney's story "Game Mother" in her  
booklet, My Stories Are My Wealth, published by the  
Council for Yukon Indians, 1977).



NUMBER 91

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Taaghahi

"facing the water"

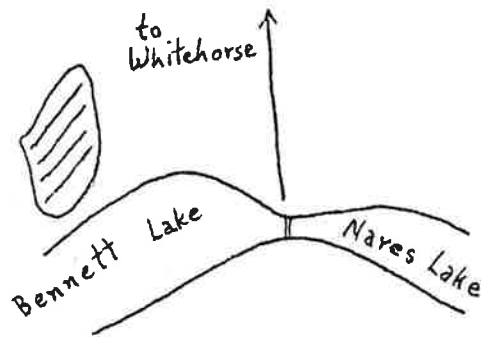
TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Takaadi T'ooch'

"rockslide charcoal (black)"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Grey Ridge



DESCRIPTION:

This is one of the four mountains from which Animal Mother or Game Mother hung her trampoline. A man called, "Duck Head Feathers" watched from here, on the second peak of the mountain.

NUMBER 92

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Chílih Dzéle'

"gopher mountain"

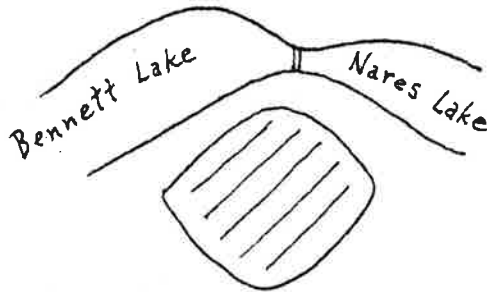
TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Tsálgi Shaayí

"gopher mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Montana Mountain:



DESCRIPTION:

This mountain is known locally as "Big Thing Mountain;" the translation from Tagish and Tlingit is "Gopher Mountain". The same name refers to the entire ridge running along Windy Arm. This mountain was also used by Game Mother for her trampoline.

NUMBER 93

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Xóots Tláa Ta.eetí

"brown bear mother's  
sleeping place"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Cirque on Montana Mountain

DESCRIPTION:

This cirque, on the north side of Montana Mountain is the first place where Game Mother stopped to rest after she gave birth to all the animals.

NUMBER 94

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Todezáané

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Naataase Héen

"Naataase river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Carcross

DESCRIPTION:

These are the original Tlingit names for Carcross.

Naataase is probably from Athapaskan.

NUMBER 95

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

T'asé Tóo'e'

"grayling river"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

T'ase Héeni .

or Keshuwaa Héeni

"grayling river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION

Chooutla River

DESCRIPTION:

The name of the river is derived from the name for the lake. People, especially older people, came here in springtime when fish were spawning.

NUMBER 96

TAGISH \*

Taasleyí Méne'

"pike lake"

TLINGIT \*

Taasleiyí { Áayi  
              { Áak'u

"pike lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Nares Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Taasleyí means pike fish in each language; people from Carcross often fish here.

\* The name for pike is the same in both languages.

NUMBER 97

TAGISH 2

Médzih É'oi

"caribou are swimming (plural)"

TLINGIT 1

Watsíx Naakwaani Yé

"place where caribou  
swim (across) in groups"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A narrow point on Nares Lake

DESCRIPTION:

"Carcross" is an abbreviation for "Caribou Crossing" but Angela Sidney explains that the real caribou crossing was at a narrow point on Nares Lake, at the fish camp.

NUMBER 98

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tsuxx'aayí

"(moose) corral point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Ten Mile Point

DESCRIPTION:

People used to put snares out to catch moose at this point.



NUMBER 99

TAGISH

TLINGIT

Kéitladi X'áat'i  
"seagull islands"

Kaa Shakee X'áat'i  
"overhead islands"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Islands off Bove Island, at the mouth of Windy Arm

DESCRIPTION:

Also called "Biscuit Island" in English.

NUMBER 100

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Tséi Zhéle'

"howling rock"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

(1) Sinwaa

(same name as other  
Sinwaa, see #18)

(2) Sinwaa (áa) Eex'i Yé

"Sinwaa yelling place"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Mountain south of Tagish Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This mountain is known locally as "Book Mountain" Mrs.  
Sidney says the mountain is a source of flint.

NUMBER 101

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Edéchine'

--

"moose sticks"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Striker Pass (from Windy Arm to Taku Arm)

DESCRIPTION:

People used to travel from Windy Arm along this pass  
"just like a road" to Taku Arm.

The name is a Tagish word which she says means something like "moose pass", that is, a place where moose ate the bark off the shrubs ("sticks") as they passed through. Mrs. Sidney explains that Tlingit people did not normally travel this way, and when they did, they would use the Tagish name.

NUMBER 102

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tséi Zhéle' Méne'

"howling rock lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Windy Arm

DESCRIPTION:

This part of the lake system is named for the adjoining mountain (see #100).

NUMBER 103

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Tséi Zhéle' Tl'ah

"end of howling rock"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Head of Windy Arm

DESCRIPTION:

This name refers only to the end of Windy Arm.

NUMBER 104

TAGISH \*

Kwátésé

"over the mountain"

TLINGIT \*

A Shakée

"over it"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Dyea Pass

DESCRIPTION:

This name means something like "on top".

- \* Mrs. Sidney alternates, sometimes giving the Tagish name first, sometimes giving Tlingit first.

NUMBER 105

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

{Tóo Ch'íle' Táh  
Mén

"among the ragged lakes"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Two different translations:

Aax'w Sáani Xoo

"among the small lakes"

Héen Kas'él'ti Xoo

"among the ragged lakes"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Log Cabin

DESCRIPTION:

Crow people owned the Log Cabin area. Skookum Jim's father, specifically, owned all the land from Carcross to the summit, including Lindeman Lake. That's all his camping ground. "All over, just like it's torn up, lots of little lakes".

NUMBER 106

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tl'óox'u Áa

"murky lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Lindeman Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Lindeman Lake is owned by the Crow moiety, originally by Skookum Jim's father. Angela Sidney says the water "looks grey all the time".



NUMBER 107

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Tl'óox'u Héeni

"murky river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Lindeman River

DESCRIPTION:

See #106

NUMBER 108

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Ch'akúx . Anax Dul.adi Yé

"place for packing skin  
boats over."

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Portage between Bennett Lake and Lindeman Lake

DESCRIPTION:

People made this portage when travelling between the  
coast and the interior.

NUMBER 109

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Dzéł Méne'

"mountain lake"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Shaanax Aayi

"valley lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Homan Lake

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 110

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Dzéł Tóo'e'

"mountain river"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Shaanax Héeni

"valley river"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Homan River

DESCRIPTION:

Initially this river was named "King River" by whites and this is the English name still used by older people in Carcross; it now appears on maps as Homan River.

NUMBER 111

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Mén Chó

"big lake"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Ch'akúx Anax Dul.adi Yé

"place for packing skin  
boats over"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Bennett Lake

DESCRIPTION:

People travelled on Bennett Lake to go to and from the  
coast. See also #108.

NUMBER 112

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

Tséi Núuláa

"rock point"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Té X'aayi Lutú

"rock point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Projection of land at Bennett, British Columbia

DESCRIPTION:

This is the first projection of land as you leave  
Bennett station by train, travelling toward Carcross.

NUMBER 113

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

T'ées Núuláa

"poplar point"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Dúk X'aayí

"poplar point"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Projection of land, east side of Bennett Lake just below  
Pennington, British Columbia

DESCRIPTION:

This is a distinctive point of land covered by an old  
stand of poplar.

NUMBER 114

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Kéitladi X'áat'i

"seagull island"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Islands on the east side of Bennett Lake, just north of the Yukon/British Columbia border.

DESCRIPTION:

Seagulls lay eggs on these islands.



NUMBER 115

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Táhchíje

(?)

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

T'ooch Áayi

"black lake"

(Name is possibly a  
translation of Tagish name)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Munroe Lake

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 116

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Ushcheel Dáachéigé

"mouth of rosehip creek"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

K'inchéiyi Héeni (Wát)

"rosehip creek"

(coastal Tlingit name)

X'üneil' Héeni

"rose creek"

(Teslin Tlingit name)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Creek emptying to West Arm of Bennett Lake from the north.

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 117

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Gáąsé Tóó'e'

"jackpine creek"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

L'ál Héeni

"jackpine creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Wheaton River

DESCRIPTION:

NUMBER 118

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Shásh Laa'

S'ikjini

"bear paw"

"bear paw"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Point of land at the mouth of Millhaven Bay

DESCRIPTION:

This point gets its name from the observation that it looks like a bear's paw in front of the bay.

Tagish laa' and Tlingit jín refer to a person's hand or an animal's forepaw.

NUMBER 119

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Táazhige

"end of the point" or

"end on the bottom" (?)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Prejevalsky Point

DESCRIPTION:

This point is the eastern end of the Bennett Range  
of mountains.

NUMBER 120

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

'Eleish Tóo'e'

"moose lick creek"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

At L'éiwu Héeni

"moose lick creek"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

One of the three creeks near the head of the Bennett Range,  
on the east side of Bennett Lake.

DESCRIPTION:

Angela Sidney remembers this as a moose lick; because of  
changes in vegetation and topography she is not absolutely  
sure which of the three creeks this is; on the basis of  
her description we are marking the middle creek.

NUMBER 121

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

T'óo Dzéle'

"breast mountain"

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Kaa L'aa Shaayí

"breast mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A mountain peak above Watson; the railroad passes beneath this point.

DESCRIPTION:

This name refers only to the tip of the mountain.

NUMBER 132

TAGISH <sup>2</sup>

T'óo Dzéke' Núuláa

"under breast mountain"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Kaa L'aa Seiyí

"under breast"

or Kaa L'aa Shaayí

"breast mountain"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A place just south of "Watson" (on the Whitepass rail line). The name refers to a place by the water, directly under the prominent mountain peak (see #121).

DESCRIPTION:



NUMBER 123

TAGISH

TLINGIT <sup>1</sup>

Shalsék'w

"red head"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A red rock on Bennett Lake, two bays south of Carcross

DESCRIPTION:

This rock used to stand out "just like a spotlight"  
when people were returning to Carcross, along  
Bennett Lake.

NUMBER 124

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Mbédé Méne'

"rainbow trout lake"

or

Łooge Zhaazhe

"little fish"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Daleiyí Áak'u

or X'wáat' Áayi

"trout lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Spirit Lake

DESCRIPTION:

There was no trail here before the railway, instead people travelled by Marsh Lake. The Tlingit names may be translations of a Tagish place name.

NUMBER 125

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Désdélé Méne'

(?red?) lake

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Annie Lake

DESCRIPTION:

Mrs. Sidney says, "we didn't travel that way when I was a little girl. Just from home, my mother told me (the name). One time we went there later and my aunt told me that was Désdélé Méne'. The little suckers there are all kind of red".

NUMBER 126

TAGISH 2

Tékhaaje'

"stumpy bottom"

TLINGIT 1

Aa Kawlikuxu Yé

"drained-out place"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Lewes Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This lake was drained when Whitepass built the railroad from Skayway to Whitehorse.

NUMBER 127

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

Dzéná Méne'

"muskrat lake"

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Tsín Aayi

"muskrat lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

A small lake just one half mile south of Bear Creek,  
just west of the Carcross road

DESCRIPTION:

Only the Tagish name was probably used during the  
nineteenth century, because Tlingit people would  
not be travelling this way.

NUMBER 128

33

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT

Kwáchq̓ Méne'

-

"ling cod lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Kookatsoon Lake

DESCRIPTION:

This lake is named for a little fish "like a ling cod with a big head".

NUMBER 129

TAGISH

TLINGIT

At Sheidí Aayi

"horn lake"

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Fish Lake

DESCRIPTION:

People say that Fish Lake is inhabited by two giant fish and that this explains why there are so many fish there. Two men once saw those fish rise out of the water, head to head.

In the old days, there were lots of sheep there.

NUMBER 130

TAGISH <sup>1</sup>

TLINGIT <sup>2</sup>

Kóogháa Néliní

A X'áanáx Naadaayi Yé

"place where river runs through"

"place where river runs  
between"

(translation of Tagish name)

NAME ON MAP/LOCATION:

Whitehorse

DESCRIPTION:

This name refers to the rapids upstream from present day Whitehorse. They were once a hazard to navigation.