Laura's first time in Vancouver

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This paper includes the text of an original story told by a native speaker of St’át’imcets about one of the first times she visited the city of Vancouver. The story was told in one sitting, and any subsequent changes or insertions made by the speaker are discussed in footnotes where appropriate. The story is formatted in four lines: a phonetic transcription, a morpheme-by-morpheme breakdown, a morpheme-by-morpheme gloss, and an English translation.

This paper consists of an original story collected from Laura Thevarge, a native speaker of the Salishan language St’át’imcets, in response to a question about one of the first times she had visited Vancouver. The story was told in one sitting, first in St’át’imcets and then in an English paraphrase afterward. There were no breaks or pauses in the first sitting; a Marantz recording device was used. A second elicitation was done two weeks later: while listening to the original recording, Laura inserted and changed several sentences. These changes are discussed in footnotes. False starts and stutters were deleted from the text. The format of the story includes four lines: the first is a phonetic transcription, the second a morpheme-by-morpheme breakdown using a practical orthography invented by Van Eijk, the third a morpheme-by-morpheme gloss, and the fourth is the English translation. A guide to the practical orthography and abbreviations used in morpheme glossing are provided in Appendices 1 and 2, respectively.

(1) ʔikə'1ʔan ƛ'iq čʔa pankWúpha
i=ke1ʔ=an t'iq ʔsƛa pankúpa
when=first=1SG.CONJ arrive DEIC Vancouver
When I first arrived here in Vancouver

(2) ʔa... ƛ' kw'ʔn Xaƛ'min' kWš
ay t'ʔu7 kw=en=xat'-min' kw=waʔ=s
NEG just DET=1SG.POSS=want-RED DET=IMPF=3POSS

1 Thank you to Laura Thevarge for sharing her stories with me, and to Lisa Matthewson for all her help in understanding St’át’imcets.
I didn’t want the white people to know that I was Indian.

My sister told me that it would be good to go see the native people who work there.

“They will help you.”

My money was all gone. Then I started work there.

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2 X will be used throughout this text to represent a voiceless uvular fricative.
Victoria Drive lti health centre
Victoria Drive l=ti=health centre=a
Victoria Drive PREP=DET=health centre=EXIS
at the health center at Victoria Drive. 3

(7) nix'as čutš ?áma kwašu
nih=t'u7 s=tsut=s ama kw=wa7=su
FOC=just NOM=say=3.POSS good DET=IMPF=2SG.POSS
She [my sister] said, “You should go

naš ?ac'Xən

nas ats'x-en

go see-DIR
see these people who are working.

(8) um'ənčihašwit k4 kwa welfare wa? čut
um'-en-tsih-as-wit kelh kw=wa7=welfare wa7 tsut
ask-DIR-2SG.OBJ-3PL.SUB FUT DET=IMPF=welfare IMPF say
They will give you money,” she said.

(9) o kan čun ?a kwn Xa'x'imin' kwn
oh kan tsun cw7aoz kw=en=xat'-min' kw=en
oh 1SG.SUB tell NEG DET=1SG.POSS=want-RED DET=1SG.POSS
“Oh,” I said, “I don’t want to go

?ac'Xən ?ə ?uxwalmixwa wa? k'wzusəm
ats'x-en i=ucwalmicw=a wa7 k'wzus-em
see-DIR DET=PL=Indian=EXIS IMPF work-MID
see the native workers.”

(10) a.z kwen kwaš
kw=en xat'-min' kw=wa7=s
NEG DET=1SG.POSS want-RED DET=IMPF=3SG.POSS
I didn’t want

zwatniš kwen ?uxwalmixw
zwat-en-itas kw=en=ucwalmicw
know-DIR-3PL.ERG DET=1SG.POSS=Indian
them to know that I was native. 4

3 second elicitation; original elicitation: k'wzušəminə lak'wa? lêcəna tu ?Commercial
4 second elicitation; original recording: ts'a7cuxmín'lhkan kwen ñcwalmicw k'a “I’m embarrassed to appear as an Indian.”

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Oh, my sister told me

Oh, my sister told me

ti nsesqʷəz'ə

Oh, my sister told me

i=wa7=ucwlamicw

the natives who were working.⁵

wa7 nuk'w7-an-ts-al-it-as

It's good they really helped me.

kʷwa7=as

that I don't have

kʷłə

without NOM=money

any money.

kʷš

beg-DIR
det=what 1SG.SUB tell

I don’t like to beg for anything,” I said.

⁵ second elicitation; original recording: nilh t'u7 ses tsut ‘oh’. nilh t'u7 stsuntsas
‘naskaew ka t'u7 sena7.’ “Then she said “oh”. Then she said “you should go anyway.”
It would be good if I went to see them," I said."6

I'll do it, I'll do it, I'll do it."

Then I got a house

We first moved

And my children came with me.

I finished the driving course that I was doing.

I finished
ta šk'ulmin'  k'Wa grade ten
ti=skul-min'  kw=wa7=grade ten
DET=school-RED  DET=IMPF=grade ten

Doing grade ten.

(21)  niA'as  mim'x  ?aku  l  ti  Xa?a
nih=t'u7  s=mim'c  aku7  l=ti=s=xa7=a
FOC=just  NOM=move  DEIC  PREP=DET=NOM=high=EXIS
Then I moved up the hill.7

(22)  lakWu?  ?əɬ  ənčʔa  s  k'wzušəm
laku7  aylh  n=ts7as  k'wezus-em
DEIC  then  1.POSS=come  work-MID
To get to where I worked,

one hour  k'aɬkan  tiq
one hour  k'a=lhkan  tiq
one hour  EVID=1SG.SUB  arrive
it took me an hour.

(23)  niɬ  k'Wən  waʔ  lakWu  X'oʔ  čixWalmən
nih  kw=en  waʔ  laku7  t'u7  tsicw-almin
FOC  DET=1SG.POSS  IMPF  DEIC  just  get.there-almost
I was up there for

k'W̓s  čəm'p  ti  smaqʔa
kw=s=tsem'p  ti=s=maqʔa
DET=NOM=finish  DET=NOM=winter
almost a year.

(24)  niA'ə  n̓ s  mim'x  lati
nih=t'u7  n=s=mim'c  lati7
FOC=just  1SG.POSS=NOM=move  DEIC
Then I moved again

Iti čunəm Carolina Street
l=ti=tsun-em Carolina Street
PREP=DET=tell-1PL.ERG Carolina Street
to Carolina Street

7 second elicitation; original recording: nilh t'u7 aylh nskwamem ku k'wezusem

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There where I moved, the house was very big.

Then we were there

Then two of my sisters came

Oh, we were having a housewarming.

They came and brought the booze.

We were sitting around.

Then he came, to fix the phone.
(32) nǐ衜衜 wa7 șwa7+ka4 lati
nilh=t'u7 s=wa7 s=wa7=lhkahl latil7
FOC=just NOM=IMPF NOM=IMPF=1PL.POSS DEIC
We were there.

(33) Lankal4 wa7 sqyi'y'œX
plan=kalh wa7 s=qyi:y':ax
already=1.PL.SUB IMPF NOM=drunk:DIM
We were a little bit drunk.

(34) nǐ衜衜 nściun
nilh=t'u7 n=s=tsun
FOC=just 1SG.POSS=NOM=tell

lכ?a ḥuz' lak _VLAN=telephone
l=ts7a lh=ḥuz'−as lak i=telephone=a
PREP=DEIC COMP=going.to-3.POSS lie DET.PL=telephone=EXIS
I said, “Here is where the telephones are going to go.

(35) pala lkwa bedroom akW čunam
pala7 l-ka4 wa7 bedroom aku7 tsun-em
one DEIC bedroom DEIC tell-1PL.ERG
The one there in the bedroom

wa7 business phone wa7 čunam
wa7 business phone wa7 tsun-em
IMPF business phone IMPF tell-1.PL.ERG
is called the business phone.”

(36) nq'sa------nk ka4?a4
nq'sank=lhkahl ayIh
laugh=1PL.SUB then
Then we laughed.

(37) nq'sankmin'om
nq'sank-min'−em
laugh-RED-1PL.ERG
We laughed about it.

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8 This sentence was added during the second elicitation: łan wa7 t'iq tisqaycwa ti wa7
maysentali ku telephone “Then the man came who fixed the phone”. The sentence
originally contained an =a enclitic after tali (maysentaliha); however, written grammars
of St’át’imcets indicate that this enclitic should not be present here.
We were saying, that he believed us.

There was the business phone there in the bedroom.

We finished eating the whole fish we brought.

Some time later, again IMPF when-3.CONJ EVID

the phone got broken.

So I phoned [BC Tel]
the ones who owned the phone

(43) niƛ’әš čunčәš ti sqayxʷa
nilh=t'u7 s=tsun=ts-as ti=sqaycw=a
FOC=just NOM=tell=1SG.OBJ-3SG.SUB DET=man=EXIS

Then the man said,

(44) ni4 ha tə business phone ə wa7 qəɬəwil’x
nilh ha ti=business phone=a wa7=qvl-wiil’c
FOC Q DET=business phone=EXIS IMPF=bad-become

“Is it the business phone that is broken?

or is it the one in the kitchen?”

(45) ?o kan čun ni4 ni business phone ə wa7 qəɬəwal’x
oh kan tsun nilh ni=business phone=a wa7=qvl-wiil’c
oh 1SG.SUB tell FOC DET=business phone=EXIS IMPF=bad-become

“Oh,” I said, “it’s the business phone that’s broken,”

I said.

(46) nq’šankmin’əm ʔə4
nq’šank-min’-em aylh
laugh-RED-1.PL.ERG then
Then we laughed about it
### Appendix 1: St’at’imcets Practical Orthography

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### Appendix 2: Abbreviations in morpheme glosses

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