

Title: Finnish Roots in Kashin Place-names
Author: Irina Barclay, Appalachian State University

This paper presents an 18th-Century place-name study based on Kashin official discourses selected from the Tver State Archive (ГАТО, ф.103, оп.1, ед.хр.801). Created from dictations of life-long residents of the Kashin District, conversations were recorded by scribes and reflect four hundred-fifty such place-names.

Historical facts and archeological finds reveal that Finnish tribes lived in the Kashin district before Slavonic people settled there. Place-names within the district where two Finnish tribes, the *Chud* and *Meria*, lived confirm that three counties had names with Finnish roots: *Мерецкой*, *Нерохотский*, and *Чютской*.

The names of rivers used in Kashin official discourse also were Finnish derivatives: *Инобож*, *Кукса*, *Нерехта*, *Неропож*, *Пудица*, *Суерка* и *Шакша* (Матвеев, 2004).

The words *кулига* and *кашка* are common in present-day Russian dialects and are used as ordinary place-names, having Finnish roots in *kyla* and *kask*, the first meaning 'village', the second, 'slash-burn clearing' (Мамонтова, Муллонен, 1991).

This paper's linguistic analysis will also demonstrate that some river-names and place-names form equivalents. For example, pairs naming streams and wastelands use Finnish and Russian terms: *Тумахта/Черный* and *Заболотье/Захетна*. The appellation, *Тумахта*, from Finnish into Russian, is translated as *tumta* 'dark' (Русско-финский словарь, 1992: 291). In Kashin official discourse, *tumta* has the Russian equivalent *черный*, which is used in Russian dialects with the meanings 'black', 'dark' or 'deep' (Даль, IV: 595). The word, *Захетна*, when translated from Finnish into Russian, is *hete*, and means 'quiaq' (Русско-финский словарь, 1992: 299); it is a direct equivalent of the Russian place-name *Заболотье*.

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