

A Revised Phonological Analysis of the Heckewelder Vocabulary of Nanticoke

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The present study offers an updated phonological analysis of a Nanticoke vocabulary compiled by Moravian missionary John Ernestus Gottlieb Heckewelder in 1785. While the original manuscript is lost, two surviving copies in Heckewelder's hand, alongside a third by Peter Stephen Du Ponceau, form the basis of this analysis. The late Dr. David Pentland provided copious etymologies for the Heckewelder vocabulary in his Proto-Algonquian Dictionary, which are presented herein with additional commentary. The present study provides a fresh transcription of three copies of the vocabulary, then presents the evidence for the historical phonology of Nanticoke in the word lists based on correspondences between the Nanticoke orthography and Proto-Algonquian etymologies in Pentland's Dictionary. Additionally, this study explores Nanticoke's linguistic affiliations within the Eastern Algonquian subgroup, as proposed by Goddard (1980).

References.

Goddard, I. (1980). Eastern Algonquian as a genetic subgrouping. *Algonquian Papers-Archive*, *11*.