

Survey of Vancouver English fonds

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University of British Columbia Archives



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The Library

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Fonds Description

Survey of Vancouver English fonds. – 1975-1992.

2.46 m of textual records and illustrations

496 reel to reel tapes

Administrative History

The Survey of Vancouver English (SVEN) was a multi-year project conducted by Department of Linguistics Professor Robert J. Gregg. A pilot survey from 1976 to 1978 preceded and were included in SVEN. SVEN ran from 1978 to 1984, with a Final Report dispatched to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. SVEN was an urban dialect survey of Vancouver born residents that sought data concerning systematic sociolinguistic variables, such as those associated with phonology, vocabulary, and grammar. Both the Pilot Survey and SVEN began with questionnaires. The SVEN questionnaire, a modified form of the Pilot Questionnaire, was intricately structured and had over 1000 questions. 300 individuals were included in the final study, 60 of which were part of the initial Pilot Survey. The interview process took two years and resulted in 496 audiotapes that were subsequently transcribed. Transcription took over two years and resulted in 300 booklets, one for each interviewee. Data resulting from the surveys as well as data from similar studies informed the researchers' conclusions, papers, and other publications. After its completion, SVEN was a primary informant for Gaelan de Wolf's study comparing English in Vancouver with that of English in Ottawa.

Custodial History

The records, including the computer databank, were gifted to the University Archives by Dr. Gregg in 1988, 1990, and 1992, and by Gaelan de Wolf in 1996.

Scope and Content

Fonds consists of materials used by interviewers, completed questionnaires, audio recordings and transcripts of interviews conducted, computer data, and published papers and speeches about the study by Gregg, de Wolf, and others.

Notes

File list available.

[UBC's Data Library](#) retains related computer data. [Koerner Library](#) retains the codebooks.

Series Descriptions

Materials Used by Field Workers with Informants Series. – 1976-1982.

4cm textual materials and illustrations.

Series consists of the materials used by the interviewers to prompt interviewees.

Pilot Survey Series. – 1976-1978.

52.8 cm of textual materials.

Series consists of survey transcriptions, reading passage transcriptions, and notes for the Pilot Survey.

SVEN Survey Series. – 1978-1985.

30.6 cm of textual materials.

Series consists of questionnaires and reading passage transcriptions created during the SVEN study. SVEN resulted in 252 labeled questionnaires, 57 of these had red marks, with an unknown purpose, on the label. 25 questionnaires were retained, 8 with red label marks. Series features [Questionnaires](#) and [Reading Passage Transcriptions](#) subseries.

Papers and Speeches Series. – 1975-1988.

30.2 cm of textual materials.

Series consists of papers, speeches, and books created before, during, and after the study was conducted. These papers, speeches, and books were created by R. J. Gregg, Gaelan de Wolf, and others.

SVEN Data Series. – 1981-1985.

128.8 cm of textual materials.

Series consists of the development of the code book and printouts of data and specific contextual information pertinent to the study that were included in a database. This data was used to compute statistical analyses and derive conclusions. It includes the work of studies done by other researchers on related topics. The order of the printouts has been retained as it is believed they were in their original order when reviewed during processing.

Audio Recordings Series. – 1979-1982, 1988-1992.

496 reel to reel tapes.

Series consists of copies of recordings of the interviews done during the SVEN portion of the study. The originals were created between 1979 and 1982. The copies were created in the late 1980's and early 1990's. These recordings are listed in the Archive's Audio/Visual Binder under AT 3788: 1-242.

File List

BOX 1

MATERIALS USED BY FIELD WORKERS WITH INFORMANTS series

- 1-1 Materials Used by Field Workers #1
- 1-2 Materials Used by Field Workers #2

PILOT SURVEY series

- 1-3 Pilot Survey Notes 1-7
- 1-4 Pilot Survey Notes 8-15
- 1-5 Pilot Survey Notes 16-24
- 1-6 Pilot Survey Notes 25-32

BOX 2

- 2-1 Pilot Survey Notes 33-39
- 2-2 Pilot Survey Notes 40-48
- 2-3 Pilot Survey Notes 49-57
- 2-4 Pilot Survey Notes 58-65
- 2-5 Pilot Survey Reading Passage Transcriptions 1-65

BOX 3

- 3-1 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 1-4
- 3-2 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 5-9
- 3-3 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 10-17
- 3-4 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 18-25
- 3-5 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 26-32

BOX 4

- 4-1 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 33-41
- 4-2 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 42-47
- 4-3 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 48-51
- 4-4 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 52-57
- 4-5 Pilot Survey Transcriptions 48-65

BOX 5

SVEN SURVEY SERIES

Questionnaires

5-1	Q1
5-2	Q11
5-3	Q21
5-4	Q31
5-5	Q41
5-6	Q51
5-7	Q61
5-8	Q71
5-9	Q81
5-10	Q91
5-11	Q101
5-12	Q111
5-13	Q121
5-14	Q131
5-15	Q141
5-16	Q151
5-17	Q161
5-18	Q171
5-19	Q181
5-20	Q191
5-21	Q201
5-22	Q211
5-23	Q221
5-24	Q231
5-25	Q241

Reading Passage Transcriptions

5-26	SVEN Reading Passage Transcriptions 1-54
5-27	SVEN Reading Passage Transcriptions 55-108
5-28	SVEN Reading Passage Transcriptions 109-162
5-29	SVEN Reading Passage Transcriptions 163-216
5-30	SVEN Reading Passage Transcriptions 217-242

PAPERS AND SPEECHES series

- 5-31 Papers and Speeches 1
- 5-32 Papers and Speeches 2
- 5-33 Papers and Speeches 3
- 5-34 Papers and Speeches 4
- 5-35 Papers and Speeches 5
- 5-36 Papers and Speeches 6
- 5-37 Papers and Speeches 7
- 5-38 Papers and Speeches 8
- 5-39 Papers and Speeches 9
- 5-40 Papers and Speeches 10 - SVEN and Pilot details - reference
- 5-41 Papers and Speeches 11 - List of papers by author and co-authors.

BOX 6

- 6-1 Gaelan de Wolf PHD Thesis 1988

BOX 7

SVEN DATA series

- 7-1 Vol. 1 I - Pronunciation – phonological variable groups S.FREQ 1-39
- 7-2 Vol. 1 II - Pronunciation – phonological variable groups S.FREQ 1-39
- 7-3 Vol. 2 I - Pronunciation – phonological variable 1-39 + local words x Freq
- 7-4 Vol. 2 II - Pronunciation – phonological variable 1-39 + local words x Freq
- 7-5 Vol. 3 I - Pronunciation – phonological variables #1-12 Breakdowns x age, sex, and socio-economic status
- 7-6 Vol. 3 II - Pronunciation – phonological variables #1-12 Breakdowns x age, sex, and socio-economic status
- 7-7 Vol. 4 I - Pronunciation – phonological variables #13-20 Breakdowns x age, sex, and socio-economic status
- 7-8 Vol. 4 II - Pronunciation – phonological variables #13-20 Breakdowns x age, sex, and socio-economic status
- 7-9 Vol. 5 I - Pronunciation – phonological variables #21-39 Breakdowns x age, sex, and socio-economic status
- 7-10 Vol. 5 II - Pronunciation – phonological variables #21-39 Breakdowns x age, sex, and socio-economic status

- 7-11 Vol. 6 I - Pronunciation – special profile words #40-61 Breakdowns by three factors (age, sex, s-e status)
- 7-12 Vol. 6 II - Pronunciation – special profile words #40-61 Breakdowns by three factors (age, sex, s-e status)
- 7-13 Vol. 7 I - Pronunciation – special profile words #62-93 Breakdowns by three factors (age, sex, s-e status)
- 7-14 Vol. 7 II - Pronunciation – special profile words #62-93 Breakdowns by three factors (age, sex, s-e status)
- 7-15 Vol. 8 I - Pronunciation – special profile words #94-122 Breakdowns by three factors (age, sex, s-e status)
- 7-16 Vol. 8 II - Pronunciation – special profile words #94-122 Breakdowns by three factors (age, sex, s-e status)

BOX 8

- 8-1 Vol. 9 - Grammar – variation in usage +/- correct Breakdowns by sex & age SVEN and pilot
- 8-2 Vol. 10 - Grammar – variation in usage +/- correct Breakdowns by s-e status SVEN and pilot
- 8-3 Vol. 11 - Grammar – variation in usage eh? +/- acceptability - SVEN got/gotten +/- acceptability w/Breakdowns
- 8-4 Vol. 12 I - Vocabulary: special lexical items breakdowns (by age, sex, s-e status)
Local words include Kitsilano (frequencies and breakdowns)
- 8-5 Vol. 12 II - Vocabulary: special lexical items breakdowns (by age, sex, s-e status)
Local words include Kitsilano (frequencies and breakdowns)
- 8-6 Vol. 13 - Rhymes – frequencies and tabulations ; SVEN Informants background - Language Awareness and subjective attitudes
- 8-7 Vol. 14 I - Background Information Frequencies - Pilot survey only (original version)
- 8-8 Vol. 14 II - Frequencies for Local Terms, Reading Passages, Grammar Variables - Pilot survey only (original version)
- 8-9 Vol. 15 I Part 1 - Minimal Contrast – Frequencies - SVEN only (original version)
- 8-10 Vol. 15 I Part 2 - Visual-Aural, Wordlists, Series, Local Terms, Reading Passage, Minimal Contrasts, Word List Frequencies, Frequencies for Series - SVEN only (original version)
- 8-11 Vol. 15 II - Frequencies for Local Terms, Minimal Contrasts, Reading Passages, SVEN only (original version)

- 8-12 Vol. 16 I - Minimal Contrasts, Grammar Variables, Reading Passage, Language Awareness and Subjective Attitudes - Standardized version - SVEN + pilot ; Visual/Aural Prompting and Word Lists - Original Version - SVEN Only
- 8-13 Vol. 16 II - Reading Passage Part II, Language Awareness & Subjective Attitudes (Rel. Pilot Material Only), Visual/Aural – Word Lists – Minimal Contrasts – Reading Passage - Standardized version - SVEN + pilot ; Word List Frequencies - Original Version - SVEN Only
- 8-14 Vol. 17 I - Grammar Variables, Informant’s Background (Language Awareness & Subjective Attitudes), Visual-Aural Prompting, Word Lists, Series - Standardized version – SVEN only
- 8-15 Vol. 17 II - Word Lists and Series - Standardized version - SVEN only
- 8-16 Vol. 18 I - Visual/Aural and Series Complete Sets - Standardized version - SVEN only
- 8-17 Vol. 18 II - Reading Passage I and II - Standardized version - SVEN only

BOX 9

- 9-1 Vol. 19 I - Visual/Aural Prompt Q65-395 – Original Version – SVEN, SVEN + Pilot
- 9-2 Vol. 19 II – Visual/Aural Prompt Q65-350 – Merged Version – SVEN + Pilot, SVEN only
- 9-3 Vol. 19 III - Visual/Aural Prompt Q65-350 – Standardized Version – SVEN + Pilot
- 9-4 Vol. 20 I - Word List Q351-656 – Original Version – SVEN + Pilot, SVEN only, Pilot only
- 9-5 Vol. 20 II - Word List Q351-656 – Merged Version – SVEN + Pilot
- 9-6 Vol. 20 III - Word List Q351-656 – Standardized Version – SVEN + Pilot
- 9-7 Vol. 21 I - Grammatical Variation Q647-851 – SVEN + Pilot, SVEN only, Pilot only
- 9-8 Vol. 22 I - FREQ. for Local Terms, Series, Minimal Contrast Q842-1041, Original Version, SVEN + Pilot, SVEN only, Pilot only
- 9-9 Vol. 22 II - FREQ. for Local Terms, Series, Minimal Contrast Q842-1041, Merged Version, SVEN + Pilot, SVEN only, Pilot only
- 9-10 Vol. 22 III - FREQ. for Local Terms, Series, Minimal Contrast Q842-1041, Standardized Version, SVEN + Pilot, SVEN only, Pilot only
- 9-11 Vol. 23 I - Reading Passage – Q1060-1669 - Original Version – SVEN Only and Pilot Only
- 9-12 Vol. 23 II - Reading Passage – Q1060-1669 - Original Version – SVEN + Pilot
- 9-13 Vol. 23 III - Reading Passage – Q1060-1669 - Merged Version – SVEN + Pilot

- 9-14 Vol. 23 IV - Reading Passage – Q1060-1669 - Standardized Version – SVEN + Pilot – Part 1
- 9-15 Vol. 24 - Reading Passage New Variables and Update – XPINTL6 & BCDATA re-created
- 9-16 Vol. 26 - Background Information Frequencies – SVEN Only, Language Awareness + Subjective Attitudes – SVEN Only
- 9-17 Vol. 27 - Background vars PINTL1 / Background, Visual/Aural SINTL2/Visual
- 9-18 Vol. 28 - Word List SPINTL/Wordlist + Grammatical vars PINTL4/Grammar, Series min. pair, local, SINTL5/Ser. Min. Loc.
- 9-19 Vol. 29 - Reading Passage PMINTL 61 + Reading Passage INTL62/READPASS1
- 9-20 Vol. 30 - Various including Visual and Word List SVEN + Pilot
- 9-21 Vol. 31 - BK. GRD + Lang Awr., Gr. Var. + SVEN+Pilot

BOX 10

- 10-1 Vol. 32 - L.TRM + Series Min. Con. – SVEN + Pilot
- 10-2 Vol. 33 - Additions + Variables + Code Book Development + SVEN Code Book I.
- 10-3 Vol. 34 - Pilot Code Book + Mergers
- 10-4 Vol. 35 - Standardized Codes + Sp. Profile Composite
- 10-5 Vol. 36 - Vars. On Active File + Ottawa Survey + BC Survey + Pilot Survey + SVEN Free Speech + Tapes + File Listing
- 10-6 Vol. 37 - SVEN V+O comp
- 10-7 Vol. 38 - SVEN Documentation from the SPSS Batch System 1981