

Pottery Making

J. Hill (Hill III:2-3; Haas XVIII:111-125)

Vrkvswv, locowv nake hvmkusēt omēs.
alkáswa locówa nâ·ki hámkosi·t ô·mi·s¹
A crock [vrkvsww] and clay jar [locowv] are the same thing.

Fvkke-tvlaswv lvstan eshahoyvtēt
fakkitalá·swa² lásta·n ishá·ho·yáti·t³
They were made of hard, black clay,

rvkkemahat elec v empvtakv vhopakuce kolvpakat mahet poloksēt
lakkimá·ha·t ilicá (?) impatá·ka ahopa·kocí kolapâ·ka·t mâ·hit polóksi·t
the largest had a base about seven inches round,

emmahē vhopakuce palē cahkepohkakat mahet pakkēt
imma·hí· ahopa·kocí pâ·li· cahkipohká·ka·t mâ·hit pá·kki·t
rising to a height of about fifteen inches,

nvrkvpv mahe tat vhopakuce palat mahet omen
naḱkapá mâ·hita·t ahopa·kocí pâ·la·t mâ·hit ô·min
it was about ten inches around the middle,

yoksvt vhopakuce kolvpakat mahet omakvtēs.
yóksat ahopa·kocí kolapâ·ka·t mâ·hit oma·katí·s.
and the top edge was about seven inches.

ʾResenlopockusateu (vrkvuce) hahicet,
ʾḱisinlopóckosa·tiw alkacóci⁴ há·heycít
Smaller ones (vrkvuce) were also made,

motēsv enhakv omēt ont omis,
motí·sa inhá·ka ó·mi·t ônt o·mēys
similar in shape to a sofkee crock [motēsv],

enhvokēt monkat cokwvt rvkkēt tot omvtēs.
inhawkí·t mōḱka·t cókwat lákki·tot o·matí·s.
but the opening or mouth was large.

Fvkke tat polokusēn hayet,
fákkita·t poló·kosi·n ha·yít
Making a rope of clay,

¹ Maybe a little different shape, I don't know. JH

² M: Haas nb has fakkí·talá·swa.

³ M: Changed from ishá·yakáti·t to match Hill ms.

⁴ M: "(vrkvuce)" inserted based on Hill ms. This word is not known to MM.

lvcpēcet, etohlicet, ohwetenket,
lácpi·cít itóhleycít óhwhitinkít
they wet it, coiled it around on itself, and pressed down,

enken 'setewetēnet 'telokpicet hvlwēcet omakvtēs.
ínkin 'sitíwiti·nít 'tilókpeycít hálwi·cít oma·katí·s
and squeezing with the hands, they stacked them together for height.

Yv nake hayvranof,
ya nâ·ki há·yała·nô·f
When making these things,

“Fvkke-mocvse tvlkat norof, tvkockēs” maket,
fakkimocási tâlka·t no·lô·f tako·ckí·s ma·kít
they said, “When you bake new clay alone, it cracks,”

fvkke norvtē vrkvsww vhopvnkvten paccet telekmicet
fákki nołátí· alkáswa ahopánkati·n pa·ccít 'tilíkmeycít
so they pounded baked clay from a broken pot into a fine powder,

mv fvkken vpayet cvlahpet
ma (?) fákkin apa·yít caláhpit
added it to the clay and mixed it,

vrkvsww, locowv, fvkke-pvlvknv hahicet omakvtēs.
alkáswa locówa fakkipalákna há·heycít oma·katí·s
and made crocks, clay jars, and clay plates.

Pvlvknv tat motēsiv pvlvknv kihocē ocakat enhakv omvkēt omvtēs.
paláknata·t motí·sa palákna kéyho·cí· ó·ca·kâ·t inhá·ka o·makí·t o·matí·s.
The plates were similar to what is now called pottery.

Yv nake hayepohyof,
ya nâ·ki ha·yipóhyo·f⁵
When they were shaped,

folahpv hvrpen eskaset ofv, onvpvo hērusen mvherihcet
foláhpa hálpin íska·sít ó·fa onápaw hĩ·nosin 'mahi<léyh>cit
the shell of a mussel was used to scrape it, designing the inside and out very prettily;

⁵ M: Changed from há·yipo·yô·f to match Hill ms.

cvto tvkvcwē tenēpusan esfofoyet tenēpihcet hvsottan licen,
cáto (?) takácwi·tini·⁶posa·n isfó·fo·yít⁶ tini·péyhcit hasô·tta·n lêycin
they were sawed repeatedly with a hard, smooth rock, smoothed and set in the sun,

karpofvn, eto·talucen ohhvpohyet 'mvhetehcet
ka·łpô·fan itota·locín ohhapóhyit 'mahitíhcit
and when dry, [the pots] were set upon dry wood and lit,

mv fvkke noricet omhoyvtēs.
ma fákki nołeycít ómho·yatí·s
and the clay was baked.

Vrkvswv locowv uewv esmorecetvt omet,
alkáswa locówa óywa (?) ismo·licítat ô·mit
Crocks [vrkvsww] and clay jars [locowv] were for boiling water,

vpeswv eshoretvt omet,
apíswa (?) ishołítat ô·mit
boiling meat,

opuswuce esnoricetvt omvtēs.
oposwocí isnołeycítat ô·matí·s.
and cooking soup.

Momen hompvranof,
mo·mín hómpała·nô·f
And when they were going to eat,

fvkke pvlvknv vcanet,
fákki (?) palákna acâ·nit
they'd pour it into a clay plate,

eto·hvkkvn monkat yvnvs·yvpe hvkkvn hvmkusēn vkpikēt
itohákkán mónka·t yanasyapí hákkán hâmkosi·n akpéyki·t
they'd put in just one wooden spoon or spoon made of buffalo horn,

opuswuce ēsket homhopvtēt omēs.
oposwocí i·skít hómho·patí·t⁷ o·mi·s⁸
and eat the soup,

⁶ M: Changed from isfo·yít 'sawed' to match Hill ms. (isfó·fo·yít = 'sawed repeatedly').

⁷ M: Changed from hómpa·katí·t 'they would eat' to match Hill ms. (hómhopatí·t = 'they (people in general) would eat').

⁸ M: o·mi·s added to match Hill ms.

Yv nake hahicat hoktvket omvtēs.
ya nâ·ki há·heycâ·t hoktakít o·matí·s.
It was the women who made these things.

Cvpuse tatē natarvt omet pvlvknv hahicen hēcit arvyvtēt os.
capósi tá·ti·⁹ na·tá·lát¹⁰ ô·mit palákna há·heycín hi·céyt a·layáti·t ô·^{ns}.
My late grandmother was a potter and I used to see her making plates.

Vrkvs-wvvnkv hoktvke natarvlke hayvtēt omēs.
alkaswanáka hoktakí na·ta·lálki ha·yatí·t ô·mí·s
The tom-tom [vrkvs-wvvnkv] was made by the women potters.

Mv vrkvcuce enrvkkē tat vhopakuce ostat mahetis omēs.
ma alkacóci¹¹ inlakkí·ta·t ahopa·kocí ô·sta·t mâ·hiteys o·mí·s
The little tom-tom was about four inches around.

Momen enhvlwē vhopakuce kolvpakat mahetis omvtēs.
mo·mín inhalwí· ahopa·kocí kolapâ·ka·t mâ·hiteys o·matí·s.
And its height was about seven inches.

Mv vrkvsuwucen uewvn nvcomusēn vcvhnet,
ma (?) alkaswocín óywan nacómosi·n acáhnit
A little water was poured in a small pot,

ecuce hvrpen esse enkasvkvten sohrvhnet,
icóci háłpin íssi inká·sakáti·n sohláhnit
it was covered with fawn hide that had been scraped,

eco-hvrpe selkēn sem ohwvnahoyvtēt
icoháłpi sílki·n 'simohwana·hoyáti·t
and tied down with a strip of deer hide,

mvt vrkvs-wvvnkvt omet vrkvs-vtulkvtot, vrkvs-hakvttot nvfketucet omēs.
mat alkaswanákat ô·mit alkasatólkatot alkashá·katot nafkitóci¹² ô·mí·s
and that was an vrkvs-wvvnkv, vrkvs-vtulky, or vrkvs-hakv, a small drum.

Momen heyv nake hēren mvherihcet nvfhoken omat,
mo·mín hiyá (?) nâ·ki hí·łin 'mahiléyhcit náfho·kín o·mâ·t
And if these things are well made, when hit,

⁹ M: Haas nb has tá·ti.

¹⁰ M: Hill uses the term natarv here for potter, a term restricted to 'dirtydauber' for most speakers.

¹¹ M: Or (MM): alkaswocí?

¹² nafkitóci, another name for alkaswanáka, etc. Four names for the little drum.

enhakē ocēt omēs.
inha·kí· ó·ci·t ô·mi·s
they have a sound.

Enhopyē vkērkv hvmkat senhoyvnētis pohkēs.
inhopyí· akí·lka hámkat·t sinhoyáni·teys pô·hki·s¹³
They can be heard a mile or more away.

Momen esnvfketv tat enrvkkē encvpkē cokv eshoccicetv omusen
mo·mín isnafkitáta·t inlakkí.¹⁴ incapkí· có·ka isho·cceycitá ô·mosin
And the drumsticks were about the size and length of a pencil,

esnafket hayēcet omhoyēs.
ísna·fkít há·yí·cít ómho·yí·s
and played by hitting the drum with them.

Momen este·cate encuko·rvkkon nvkvftēt panēt fullet,
mo·mín isticá·ti incokolákkon nakáfti·t¹⁵ pa·ní·t follít
Now when the Indians were at the square ground to dance,

monkat pokkechvranet fullen omat,
móŋka·t pokkíchała·nít follín o·mâ·t
or if they were going to play stick-ball,

vrkvswnvkv tat wvnayet mēkkvke kaket,
alkaswanákata·t wanâ·yit mi·kkakí kâ·kit
the chiefs would tie the tom-toms and sit,

estomēn tvsekvv fullvrē komat ohyekcicet,
istó·mi·n¹⁶ tasikayá folláli· kô·ma·t ohyíkceycít
encouraging the citizens on how they were to act,

nerē ofv enkaken, totkvo 'to·tale sulkēn ohpvlvthoyen,
nilí· ó·fa inká·kin tó·tkaw 'totá·li sólki·n ohpalátho·yín
sitting in the night, and the fire would have much dry wood thrown onto it,

hvyayvkē rvkkēn ocet vrkvshkv nafket hayēcet este·cate vpoken omat,
haya·yakí· lákki·n ô·cit alkashá·ka na·fkí<t> ha·yí·n·cit isticá·ti apô·kin o·mâ·t
and having a bright fire, as the Indians sat pounding the tom-toms,

¹³ M: Corrected from pô·fki·s to match Hill ms.

¹⁴ M: Corrected from inlapkí· to match Hill ms.

¹⁵ M: Changed from nakâ·ftit to match Hill ms.

¹⁶ M: Changed from istó·mi· to match Hill ms.

afvckvkēt vpoket onkv
a·fackakí·t apo·kít oŋká
they were enjoying themselves,

vrkvshakv tat haḱē 'svmokhakēn vpoket omvnts.
aḱashá·kata·t há·ⁿki· 'samo·khá·ki·n apo·kít o·máne
so the tom-tom played continuously as they sat.

Momen mv vretv este omvlkvn ohcvfencicē omēt omen,
mo·mín ma aḱíta ísti omáلكan ohcafincéyci· ó·mi·t ô·min
And being there made everyone feel lively,

nvfketucet hakekon omat,
nafkitócít há·kikon o·mâ·t
and if the little drum didn't sound,

vretv 'sem vnvckē onkon este-catet on omat vkerricēt omēs.
aḱíta 'simanácki· óŋko·n isticá·tit ô·n o·mâ·t akíḱeycí·t ô·mi·s.
the Indian thought it feels out of place to be there.