

EXCERPT FROM RECORDED INTERVIEW WITH TED ANGASAN TALKING ABOUT  
MOUSE FOOD

CONDUCTED BY PAT PARTNOW AND MARY JANE NIELSEN  
IN SOUTH NAKNEK, ALASKA

JANUARY 28, 1998

ORAL HISTORY 98-22-03

PAT PARTNOW: How about the little rice. They call it either Indian rice or Eskimo potatoes sometimes? It's the bulb of a plant.

MARY JANE NIELSEN: Mice food?

PAT PARTNOW: Yeah.

TED ANGASAN: Oh, I remember that too. We used to pick that, I think the place they went for that was over here, right here in the swamp.

PAT PARTNOW: Oh, up on the north side up north of Libbyville then. Where it says Salmon Flats?

TED ANGASAN: Uh huh. We used to go there all the time and pick them.

PAT PARTNOW: One thing that strikes me is that your gramma knew places all up and down. I mean even before the eruption, do you think she was familiar with these places downriver or do you think she pretty much stuck with the upriver area?

TED ANGASAN: I think they stuck with the upriver area until they moved down.

PAT PARTNOW: And so she just learned from other folks where to go?

MARY JANE NIELSEN: I think we learned the downriver stuff from Dad, huh? Of course he was born there but he was two years old when they left. And his dad remarried and lived in Naknek.

PAT PARTNOW: Okay.

TED ANGASAN: Lot of food in the country. It's always around. If people know what to pick they'd never starve.

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