

EXCERPT FROM RECORDED INTERVIEW OF VERA ANGASAN
TALKING ABOUT WILD CELERY
CONDUCTED BY PAT PARTNOW AND MARY JANE NIELSEN
IN KING SALMON, ALASKA
MARCH 23, 1998
ORAL HISTORY 98-22-05

PAT PARTNOW: What else did you collect?

VERA ANGASAN: When I was a young girl?

PAT PARTNOW: Or, when you were an adult too?

VERA ANGASAN: Oh, well,

MARY JANE NIELSEN: What's the Native word for the wild celery that we used to eat with cereal? Wild celery.

VERA ANGASAN: What the heck do we call that now? Meluggaq.

PAT PARTNOW: Meluggaq?

VERA ANGASAN: Meluggaq. I got a book yet.

MARY JANE NIELSEN: Is that what Gramma called it?

VERA ANGASAN: Meluggaq. Wild celery. They get 'em from up the lake. By the mountains. Gotta be certain place, I guess. Way inside, by Savonoski.

PAT PARTNOW: Do they have the Native names in here?

MARY JANE NIELSEN: No.

VERA ANGASAN: Some people call 'em different. Gotta pick certain kinds. They got some blackberries up there too. They don't eat that part. They just cut it off and they only eat this part.

PAT PARTNOW: Peel it?

VERA ANGASAN: Peel it. It tastes like celery.

PAT PARTNOW: Yeah, I've had it. It's good!

VERA ANGASAN: And medicine? People love to pick those qawaluruq. That was good.