

Tape 4, Side B

A ~~W~~ _____ somebody put it as Cheokook.

S. Cheokook, the one in ink there is correct?

A ~~W~~ Yes. They have a roadhouse there. And this is the _____ trail for mail teams.

S. They had the old ARC cabin there. We saw a date in there '36. Was the old roadhouse the structure right behind it?

A ~~W~~ We have a regular building where a person could stay overnight and then added to that they have a little building for dogs with kennels, I mean boxes right in the meadow. I don't know if they are there any more but

S. Was that right by the ARC building over there? Right behind it towards the lagoon there.

A ~~W~~ Yes, that's the only building.

S. In fact, yes, it's a building that kind of like, here's the ARC cabin, there is a building and it had like a wing or something off it.

A ~~W~~ Yes, that probably was for the dogs.

S. That was the dogs in there, in the wing. And then this is the roadhouse structure here. What was that called, just Cheokook Roadhouse?

A ~~W~~ Cheokook

S. Cheokook. That was what it was called? Was there an operator there, anybody that ran it, or was it just a shelter cabin?

A ~~W~~ It was more or less a shelter cabin. And in them days when I personally went through there, they always left a supply of wood for the next traveler.

It was kind of an unwritten law, you know. You stop there, use that place and then you replace all of the wood and leave it open. It's open all the time.

S. That's interesting. Well then from Golovin here we show a shelter cabin down here at the mouth of Portage. Then there is a summit right there, I guess another ARC relief cabin. Then, of course, then there is the McKinley Creek trail. I guess Joe Dexter also took the south trail here over to Portage Roadhouse with the mail because it wasn't as steep. Is that right? This is just a shelter cabin here at the mouth.

A N. Shelter cabin same as this here. They had those shelter cabins all along the old mail trail. And I believe that's part of the Iditarod Trail, the old mail trail.

S. Yes, that's kind of what we are trying to follow here. Now the old Portage Roadhouse, I guess there is still some stuff there. Have you ever been over there?

A N. Oh, yes, I have been over there to pick salmon berries. They have a fishing camp up here. That's more or less community fishing camp because a lot of our people from Golovin here, they all go up there and more or less community fishing project, you know. They usually have one sail and several families take part in sailing and they take part in the share of the catch. We have the same, myself and the boat and I have six other families sharing with me and my catch you know. So, in order to get ten salmon you have to catch 100, something like that. It's a lot of work. There is my wife and my family, just wanted to fish by ourselves. We could catch all we want in two hauls you know. They make a big deal out of it and my sister-in-law, my mother-in-law, my wife's aunt and our children, their cousins and so that piece of fishing land there, instead of being divided into lots with different families it's all allotted to the whole village to take advantage, I mean they can go in there and fish.

S. They show an old trail up here, do you know anything about that? I guess it goes up to White Mountain. That was never part of the mail was it?

A ~~R~~ I think that was mail trail too.

S. Going north?

A ~~R~~ Yes.

S. When they couldn't get across

A ~~R~~ Oh, what I think what they did was, they brought the mail to Golovin and then they had another little trunk of mail going to White Mountain.

S. Oh, just like an extra run then. OK.

A ~~R~~ This is a regular mail run. The person you would want to talk to about this thing would be Peter Kern, Jr. at Nome. He was one of the last dog mail mushers on this trail. He run from Nome to I think to Golovin.

S. Oh, he ran that route?

A ~~R~~ He ran that route, yes. And then there is someone else from Golovin to Nome. Someone from down the line.

S. So that was actually the break that stops here. Then they run it back and forth.

A ~~R~~ He's still alive. He had the roadhouse at, his father had the roadhouse, Solomon down here.

S. Yes, we have been trying to get ahold of him in there in Nome. He's been pretty busy though.

A ~~R~~ You mean Pete Kern?

S. Yes, what do you know about the Portage Roadhouse? Was that just added when the mail train went in, or the mail route along the trail? Or was that there before? It looks like it could have been a village site there or something.

A H. Well, I think that's more or less a fishing camp like this one here. And I understand they, I believe it is at Moses Point that they had a regular roadhouse, but I never heard of anyone running a roadhouse here.

S. At Portage?

A H. Yes, it's more or less a shelter cabin.

S. What about this one at Walla Walla? The Walla Walla Roadhouse? Is that at the mouth of the McKinley Creek trail. You know we show that there was some kind of a cabin there, or roadhouse.

A H. They have a little roadhouse there too.

S. At Walla Walla? It's shown here on the USGS. That was a roadhouse. Was it an operated one or a shelter cabin?

A H. Just a shelter cabin more or less. I think the one that was operated was at Moses Point. In fact the people that run it was the name Moses.

S. Oh, was that right?

A H. It was named after him.

S. And he was the fellow that ran it? Do you know if many of that remains yet or not?

A H. I don't think so.

S. What at about Elim?

A H. That was, I don't know, it was started by one of the missionaries.

S. Elim was?

H. Yes. They had one down here at, they had an old mission home down here in Golovin Bay but

S. Golovin Mission?

H. Yes, that one. But they closed that then moved to Elim and that's where the village started from. I think the reason they closed it was too windy or something. The winters were too severe there.

S. Is there anything down there yet?

H. Oh, they have a, I don't think anything, they tore the building down and brought down to Elim.

S. Oh, they moved it?

H. Yes. But we have that old slaughtering house down there at, close to that mission.

S. For reindeer?

H. Yes. Lowman's.

S. Oh, Lowman Brothers? Is that still there.

H. Part of the building still standing, I think.

S. Do you know anything about a roadhouse, I'm not sure this is the right spelling, but it's Keitalk.

H. Keitalk. It might have been a cabin there.

S. Peterson Creek?

~~H~~ Yes, it could have been.

S. And then Iron Creek. If there is anything there though, you would think it would be just a relief cabin, a shelter cabin.

~~A~~ ~~H~~ Yes, the Army was located there during the war.

S. At Elim?

~~A~~ ~~H~~ Iron Creek.

S. Oh, is that right?

~~A~~ ~~H~~ In fact I was on that route that came up, well we came from Golovin and you know, when they bring the Army it was all a hush hush deal. They didn't know we were coming, we didn't know we were going there either, you know to Iron Creek. Yes our company landed there, several companies.

S. Why did they put you there?

~~A~~ ~~H~~ They were afraid of invasion at Nome, you know. And they wanted some troops nearby somewhere, you know. They landed, I don't know exactly how many, but it was a regular fighting group, you know. Artillery and everything, and they had hardly got ourselves located there then we got orders to move off to Pribilof Island. They brought in all the supplies, coal and all that there. We were there for a month unloading the boats and they said we had better take off and took another month to reload again.

S. Sounds like a government operation.

~~X~~ ~~H~~ And then they moved down to Pribilof Islands. That's when the Japs were down there.

S. ^{GOLOVIN} You know that little old building that is right up over the hill with the red and green paint that has kind of a six sided building. Is that an old military structure?

~~A~~ A No there are no old military structures here at all.

S. What is that building? I've seen them all over up here. Do you know what I'm talking about? It's by, it looks like the old school up there, it's a top like this and it's up on poles.

A ~~A~~ Oh, one of the boys built that here.

S. Oh, is that right? Did he build it from scratch?

A ~~A~~ Yes, he just, I don't know what he built it for.

S. Because I've seen buildings just like that, there's one at Nome and one at Council and there is the top of one at Bluff, you know.

A ~~A~~ Maybe you seen it with somebody who didn't know about it.

@GOLOUNG
S. Did they have docks of anything here when they had the old saltery? Do you remember any docks coming out of the front here?

A ~~A~~ No. There is, they had a regular saltery back there in front of the cliffs there. A great big building, even bigger than this but it burnt down.

S. In what the '20s?

A ~~A~~ Yes. They used to have big shipments of salted herring out of this town.

S. Where would it go to, the west coast?

A ~~A~~ Yes, the west coast. We have a lot of herring yet they say it's cheap to get it from the east coast then to get it from up here due to transportation. Get it from Norway and Sweden. But this is best quality. (Talking with someone in native tongue.) Pretty hard to talk to the old folks nowadays.

S. Now how old are you?

H. I'm 64.

S. Are you 64? This has been interesting looking at all these old road-houses. Most of the them are just two rows of logs in the ground.

H. Used to be a regular sign on this here. That's what that panel is for.

S. What did it say?

H. Dexter Trading Post. I knew that one of these days a historical project was going to come to this place. I know this a long time ago but Philip Dexter is a hard headed, hard to talk to you know. But his son Joe is easier to talk to.

S. Well, that is their property.

H. (Windy, hard to hear) And I know that they have available to renovate all these old historical sites all over the State of Alaska. I told him you could get that house fixed. He said no. Anyone would have anything to do with something like that, you know. He's a _____ old guy.

S. It's really in good shape for as old as it is. They have really taken good care of it.

H. I've seen the foundation underneath. It's all out of driftwood from the beach here.

S. Oh, is that right. They have a sawmill here in town?

H. They must of had.

S. It looks pretty good, it's all dug out underneath of here. The floor system really good.

H. A Oh, I told you about that little beach they had over there.

S. I see he had places on the side where they must have been stretching seal skins or something?

A H. Yes. I think at one time they had three or four herring operators here.

S. At Golovin?

A H. Yes. They used to, cause the fall run is the best, _____ you see Carolyn _____ down there. See it right by that stretch spot. They used to put all of these herring in great big barrels, you know. And they haul them down there and put them on the island because by the time the last boat comes in here the bay would be frozen over. But that place wouldn't be, so they ship their fish down there. They have land allotment down here, over here.

S. Right here. Right by the bottom trail there.

A H. That's where my grandfather had his hunting camp. Any my father used to get as many as 60 whales a summer. And then he would be selling all that blubber to dog mushers on the trail.

S. Oh, is that right? On the old mail trail? The bowhead whale?

A H. No, beluga. And then I have this under my wife's name.

S. That's by Mark Summit here. Right by the take off of this trail.

A H. And then I have my own land allotment over here.

S. On the other side.

A H. Yes, 160 acres apiece right in there. I should have just divided that and put them all over the place here.

S. Do you know Nine Mile Creek? Do you know of anything there. Was there a roadhouse there? Is was between _____ Square Rock and Cheokook.

H. I don't know. I've never even heard of that. Where did you get that name from?

S. Well, you know that there was a fellow that came through here in 1910; his name was Goodwin and he was a surveyor for the Road Commission. And he had a mileage thing and sometimes he would talk about roadhouses and sometimes he would talk about landmarks, so many miles. Like here, 7.3 miles from Bluff, that's 5.7 from Topkok and get all of these miles broken down.

H. You know anything about revenue sharing?

S. No. How do you spell your name again.

H. ~~Anarok.~~ AMAROK

S. Your first name again was

H. Stanley.

S. Stanley Anarok of Golovin. Well, I guess what we are going to do here today is try to take some pictures and just make a description of this thing. We told Joe what we do and would draw up our plan on this thing. Probably send copies out to people, take a look at it and if we made mistakes, write back and tell us that were wrong and you know, what we talked about on the trail.

H. You folks like to have a cup of coffee?

Old store site, Golovin, owned by Larry Haggstrom. Turnik Roadhouse north side seems to be an addition to the existing main structure with gable roof added on in successive unit and later Wanigan or cold weather entrances. Frame structure, cellutex wall. Vertical sawn, rough sawn lumbered, timbered roof. Tongue and groove. Possibly, no not whip sawn. Floor system, tongue

and groove, five-eighths by three inch frame partition inside appears to have been a residence or housing bedrooms perhaps, roadhouse perhaps. It supposedly was part of a fox farm that started at one time. Primary structure, main units outside, large gabled roof. Lip siding as per Bluff. Frame structure throughout. Lip siding ceiling, walls, floors typical three inch tongue and groove flooring. Apparently used as a fishing supply warehouse, storage. Typical five-panel door on east side, main entry. Ceiling uninsulated. Tress, dredge rafter, rough sawn, circular. Wood block chimney main unit. All units in rear part, west side of main unit, horizontal five-eighths by three inch siding, double beveled edge on some. West wall main unit horizontal T&G from other structure. Vertical planking, five-eighths by three double-beveled tongue and groove siding. Vertical ceiling same without beveled edge. Picture of Lady Maude Moses, _____ took picture, Golovin.