

European Exploration **1778-1790s**



English	Oonalaska	Sandwich Sound [Cook Inlet] Dena'ina	Norton Sound	Greenland from Emnik	Esquimaux
No	Net		Sna	Tag	
Yes, or Eye	ik	aa	ik	Ikive	
What call you that		ahā'shou	-	Kina	
1	Toradac	Chilki	Aduwjac	Alhousek	Alhouset
2	Alac	Taiha	Arba	Arlak	Mardluk
3	Canooie	Tokke	Pingishoo	Pingajuk	Pingasut
4	Seckin	Chetich	Shotamee	Sipsamat	Sipsamat
5	Chang	Hochene	Dallimic	Tellimat	Tellimat
6	Alou	Takulai	In counting man		Arhangot
7	Ooloo	Heichillo	than they're		{ Arhangot -
8	Kam dung	Ik'icw	just the same		{ Alhousek
9	Seching		was over again		{ Arhangot - man
10	Hawc				{ Ik'icw
					Kollin ill out
					Kollit

MAY 26 – JUNE 6, 1778. CAPTAIN JAMES COOK EXPLORES COOK INLET

Cook's is the first European expedition to meet the Dena'ina, engaging in trade near North Foreland and Point Possession. The ten-word vocabulary collected by William

Anderson, the surgeon for the Cook party, is the first written record of Dena'ina or any Alaska Athabaskan language. Crew members also collect a number of Dena'ina artifacts.

Courtesy of the National Archives of the United Kingdom, PRO ADM55/113.

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1778

1787 - 1791

1800

YOU
ARE HERE



1787 – 1791. RUSSIAN TRADING COMPANIES ESTABLISH POSTS IN THE DENA'INA HOMELAND

The Lebedev-Lastochkin Company builds forts at Kasilof (Fort St. George) and Kenai (Fort St. Nicholas), as well as smaller posts at Tyonek and Old Iliamna. The Dena'ina become

directly involved in the fur trade but are subjected to violence and intimidation at the hands of the Russian traders.

The Russian double eagle was the imperial crest of Russia. Image courtesy of the Alaska State Museum, ASM-III-R-150

European Exploration 1778-1790s

1778

1792 - 1800

YOU ARE HERE



1792 – 1800. DENA'INA RESISTANCE TO RUSSIAN CONTROL

Over the summer and fall of 1797, the Dena'ina, experiencing escalating violence and abuse from Russian traders, responded. Dena'ina warriors destroyed trading posts at Tyonek and Old Iliamna, and then mounted a critically damaging assault on the main post, Redoubt St. Nicholas, in Kenai. Many trading

company employees who escaped the attack returned to Russia. Only a few traders and missionaries remained scattered in Dena'ina territory, and the Russian America Company remained in control in name only. The Dena'ina were largely independent until the sale of Alaska to the US in 1867.

Illustration by William Simeone