

(the fiber) they even dried those. I said, what you want to dry them for, because now, we throw them away, ~~we~~ don't do that anymore. She said, that was a hard-up food. Like I said, when the men can't find any meat for us, or when we had drouth that year, didn't hardly raise anything, hardly any pumpkin, well, they take those that were dry, and she said, we cook that and made that pudding, I was telling you. She said, we ate it, that way. We never did throw anything away. And I just thought, I wonder what it tastes like.

She said it taste like pumpkin, but I have an idea that after it's cooked, it'll just mush, like. And, what was.... dried pumpkin. We peel them, and then we cut the necks. There's a certain way of digging down in the....supposing there's a big neck of it, they kind of hit it sideways. And then they have to be careful as they go around, all around. The whole neck comes off, and some of that seed...it's kind of stuck to it. Then they take them....I have to laugh at mother...she take those, and she say, grandma say, some of them pumpkins are sweet, naturally sweet, and when my mother cuts those out...grandma never did, cause she couldn't see...she pull a little of it out, taste it raw, and if they sweet, she lay them one side, and if they not sweet...course they be more of those that are not sweet. And then, they clean the inside, just pretty careful, not to make any hole anywhere. They just clean, like I told you we use lids, and some used to use shells...wonder what else they use. I guess that's about all.

Anyway, grandma would stick her hand in there, she'd get all the seeds out of that, and then she pass them on where we scrape the better, and smooth, see that every string of it was out. Then we set those out in the sun...the whole pumpkin...until they are withered, like. They wither, you know, they soft then. Then mother would take a knife, she had certain kind of a little knife, and she cut them about that wide. And she make a string of it, the whole pumpkin. One long one, around from the top, around and around, until it comes to the other end. And there's a certain way of picking that pumpkin up.....I was trying here one time, I said I wonder, mother, how did you use to