



Florence Mazyck

Interviewed by Dale Rosengarten

1. Gathering materials (00:27)

D. Rosengarten: The men who gather the sweet grass, do they also collect the palmetto for you?

F. Mazyck: No sometimes it'll be the little boys that go get the palmetto because the older people don't trust to go up in the tree, they'll fall, they lose. The kids get the palmetto and stuff.

D. Rosengarten: Uh huh, and the pine needles?

F. Mazyck: Well I go get that myself.

D. Rosengarten: So of the four materials, you go get two of them and you buy two of them.

F. Mazyck: Right, right, right.

2. Variety of natural materials (00:23)

D. Rosengarten: Now these come from different plants?

F. Mazyck: Right, this one here go all the way to Florida, all of these. They go all the way to Florida.

D. Rosengarten: All the way to Florida, but this is local?

F. Mazyck: Yeah this one is local. This grew in Savannah Beach, this one here.

D. Rosengarten: Well even Savannah Beach, that must be Georgia.

F. Mazyck: Yeah, some of them are from the Georgia area.

D. Rosengarten: Yeah.

3. Drying bulrush (00:22)

D. Rosengarten: Does the rush take longer than three days to dry?

F. Mazyck: Oh yeah, uh huh, yeah it takes weeks to dry.

D. Rosengarten: Weeks? Uh huh, and do y'all have to bring it in every night?

F. Mazyck: No we let it stay out.

D. Rosengarten: You let them stay out and just sit in, dry in the sun. Once they're dry, how long will they keep?

F. Mazyck: Well they'll keep a long time, very long time.

4. Prefers weaving with bulrush (00:21)

F. Mazyck: If I had a choice I would just rather use all rush, but some people don't like the rush baskets.

D. Rosengarten: You prefer to sew with rush?

F. Mazyck: Right.

D. Rosengarten: Why, why?

F. Mazyck: It makes it go faster.

D. Rosengarten: Faster.

F. Mazyck: See I wouldn't have to feed with the rush as fast as I'm feeding with this.

D. Rosengarten: I see.

F. Mazyck: So that should go a long ways.

D. Rosengarten: It's a bigger grass.

F. Mazyck: Yeah.

D. Rosengarten: Right.