

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Anthropology and Historic Preservation
Cooperative Park Studies Unit

MEMORANDUM

TO: A.J., Jim, Bill, Linda

FROM: Jim

DATE: September 30, 1980

RE: A Chugach Place Name Gazetteer

CHUGACH PLACENAME GAZETTEER

The following gazetteer does two things. First, it cross references Native place names in Frederica de Laguna's Chugach Prehistory (1956) with those reported by Kaj Birket-Smith in Chugach Eskimos (1953), and, second, it attempts to provide an acceptable spelling for Native names originally reported by de Laguna in phonetic transcription. It is not surprising that place names found in each monograph should be complimentary, since, as we now know, de Laguna and Birket-Smith shared ethnographic responsibilities equally during the field work of 1933. The two works share approximately 43 names in common. De Laguna, however, reports 112 names, while Birket-Smith mentions 77, and a number of names, therefore, are unique to either monograph.

Jeff Leer of the Alaska Native Language Center took on the task of rendering these names in contemporary Chugach Alutiiq orthography. He would have preferred re-eliciting each of the names from Chugach Alutiiq speakers, but since this has not been possible, he had to rely on a number of clues for his final transcriptions, including the gloss mentioned by de Laguna or Birket-Smith and the recurrence of "roots" within names of like derivation, as well as the phonetic spellings themselves. Leer was not always successful in determining a probable transcription into Chugach Alutiiq, and in those cases where questions remained either in meaning or phonetic transliteration of the name, he so indicated with a question mark.

Some interesting observations emerge from this preliminary linguistic analysis of the place names. For example, it is believed that the name for Gravina Bay, Isha, may actually be an Eyak word, išxah, meaning "pot." Another name, Trhatlag (Mummy Island), is rendered as Etgallaq ("always? shallow"), which is very interesting, since this name more closely approximates Khtagaluk, the Russian name for Hinchinbrook Island. If we can follow through with this

chain of suppositions convincingly, this determination would be of first rate historical importance, since it would clarify exactly who it was that the Russians first encountered during their early expeditions to Prince William Sound.

A Note on the Organization of the Names

Rather than alphabetically, I have arranged the phonetic transliterations with reference to where they appear in Chugach Prehistory. De Laguna's transliteration is followed by her gloss or her brief description. Cross references to Birket-Smith are indicated in the parentheses following his name. Leer has found it useful to compare various names with examples found elsewhere in the list. He indicates this reference by the notation "cf p. 28.10," which refers to the tenth name appearing on page 28 of de Laguna.

de Laguna, page 12

- | | | |
|-------------------|--|---|
| ✓ 1. nutiyumiut | "Nuchek People" | Birket-Smith (20): Nutyirmiut
Leer: Nuucirmiut |
| ✓ 2. nutyk | "Nuchek" | Leer: Nuuciq, "Nuchek" |
| ✓ 3. iyaqli | (former name of Nuchek) | |
| ✓ 4. nunaŕq | Site 1. (oldest village in the Sound) | Birket-Smith (145): Nunatlaq
Leer: Nunalleq, "old village" |
| ✓ 5. paŕg-uacaq | (channel from Port Etches to Constantine Harbor) | Leer: Fainguasaaq, "small entrance" |
| ✓ 6. nujuŕg-uacaq | "Little Nuchek" Site 2. | Leer: Nuucingasaaq, "little Nuchek" |

de Laguna, page 14

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|--|---|---|
| ✓ 1. uqciŕguacaq | Site 3. from uqcoq-- "winter" or "year" | Leer: Uksillenguasaaq, "small one-who-wintered" (cf p. 30.6) |
| 2. qil-a-q-al-uk | Site 4. (village or fort on refuge island at Johnstone Point) | Birket-Smith (139, 144): Qilangalik
Leer: Qilangalek? [Jeff not certain about this one; a similar word, qilangaq, means "tufted puffin"] |
| the
ide
Hawkins
do.
← Qilangalalik
[qil-a-q-al-uk] — 14.2a Qurllurkaq waterfall from lagoon | 3. xi-ydliaq | Site 5. "Shining Bluffs" |
| Rirliaq | | Birket-Smith (136): Qireliaq; (146, 160): Qirhliaq; (93, 113): Khikhliaq
Leer: Rirliaq?, "gleaming, glistening" |
| ✓ 4. aŕ-iŕq | Site 6. (village in Anderson Bay) | Leer: Ang'illeg?, "where there used to be grouse" |

de Laguna, page 15

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1. txa-ŕaymiut | "Shallow Water People" | Birket-Smith (20): Trhatlarmiut
Leer: Etgallermiut? Etgallarmiut?, "people of Etgallaq? or Etgalleq?" |
| Teggallermiut | | |
| 2. Teggalla (Teggallormen) | | Birket-Smith (20): Trhatlaq, (Mummy Island) or (135): Trhetla, (village near Taukhtyuik)
Leer: Etgallaq? or Etgalleq?, "always? shallow" |
| 3. nunakŕq | Site 7. "Big Village" | Birket-Smith (152): Nunaqiyuq
Leer: Nunakcak, "big land, town" |
| 4. aqŕatuli | Site 8. "Windy Place" | Leer: Aqlŕatuli |
| Hawkins do. Agŕatuli | | |

de Laguna, page 15 (cont.) *Cikurtaruam Napalria'i* *pinnacle rocks in Bos*

5. *napalaxeq* (largest Pinnacle Rock in Boswell Bay) Leer: *Napaliryak?* (possibly reference to having trees on it)
6. *napalaxeqtaq* (2nd largest Pinnacle Rock in Boswell Bay) Leer: *Napaliryakcak?*
Napalriakcak big one
7. *qaxuavixat* Site 9. (camping place in Boswell Bay)
Qarwalek
8. *tu-tixaluk* Site 10. (cave in Boswell Bay) Leer: *Tuullegliq?* (based on word for 'loon') *Tuullegalek(?)*
has small loons
9. *Napalrianguasaaq* *small one*

de Laguna, page 17

1. *tikvxtaxuaq* Site 11. (summer campsite on Strawberry Point) Leer: *Cikurtaruak*, "kind of icy"
2. *qucuxli* Site 12. "High Place" Leer: *Quswarli(q)?*, "elevated place"
TC?
3. *ngilanguaq* Site 13. "Like a Cave" Leer: *Englunguaq/Unglunguaq*, "small barabara" or "den???"
or *agilanguaq* "small nest" *Englunguaruaq/Unglunguaruaq*, "like a small . . ."
Englunguaq ? Unglunguaq
4. *paluxvik* Site 14. *Palugvik* Birket-Smith (134): *Palugvik*, "Mourning Place"
Paluwik Leer: *Paluwik*, "place of starvation (sadness)"
5. *tuluxliq* Site 15. "Camping Place" Leer: *Culurtellenguasaaq*, "small beached one" (cf p. 25.5)
uacq
Culurtellenguasaaq
6. *tauxvik* Site 16. "Cockle Place (?)" Birket-Smith (19, 134, 135, 141-142): *Taukhtyuik*, (village at east end of Canoe Pass)
Tangciilik < Leer: *Taugciwik?*, "place for making cockles?"
Tangciuwik

de Laguna, page 19

1. *qlaxvik* Site 17. "Where Someone Cries" Birket-Smith (134): *Qiyarvik*, "Crying Place"
Qiwik Leer: *Qiwik*, "place of crying" (cf p. 30.3)
2. *agvik* Makarka Point Leer: *Ang'ik?*, "grouse?"
Ang'ik
3. *naga'ulek* Site 18. (Devil's Rock) Birket-Smith (138, 144): *Nagaulik* or *Narualik(?)*, refuge rock at NW end of Canoe Pass
Nagaa'ulek
TC Naca'ulek

de Laguna, page 19 (cont.)

4. nun-aq Site 19. (camp or village on an island off Windy Bay) Leer: Nagaa'ulek, "one that has a standing rock island"
- Nunaa'ag*
5. ictam uqci'a Site 20. (village or site on SW end of Mummy Island) Birket-Smith (154): Nunaq Leer: Nunarraq, "hardly a village?" or Nunaq, "village?" (cf p. 21.2)
- aixaxtalat*
- Aiggartalek (SM) 'place that has hands on it'*
- Birket-Smith (158): Aikhartalik Leer: Igtem Uksilla, "the den's wintered-one" or Aiggarta(a)let, "...hands..."

de Laguna, page 20

1. u-m'ilnguq Site 24. (name for tiny grassy islet) Leer: Um'ilnguq, "one which has no fog"
- Im'ilnguq 'no water'*
2. vi-va-kik Site 25. (name of little island off S Point of Mummy Island) Leer: probably Wiiwalleq?, "old vertebra"
- Wiiwalleq 'go around'*
3. nangen'a Site 26. (name for large island off Mummy Island) Leer: Nangen'a, "its thumb"
- Nangen'a 'its thumb'*
4. xilngauq Site 27. (Grass Island) Leer: Etgallam (or Etgallem) Kelua, "behind Etgallaq" (cf p. 15.2)
- TC Qiiyartuli 'has lots of grass'*
5. txa'am Site 28. "Behind Mummy Island (Flats?)"
- qidl-ua*
- Teggall'am Kelua*

de Laguna, page 21

1. alukarmiut "Sheep Bay People" Birket-Smith (20): Alukarmiut Leer: Aalukarmiut (cf p. 21.3) Kangirmiut from Kangi, "people of the head of the bay"
- or*
- kangiarmiut*
- Kalukarmiut (?)*
2. nunam vaq'ia Site 30. (a village site) Birket-Smith (161): Nunaram-waq'ia, "below Nunaq" Leer: Nunaraam Waq'ia, "place toward mouth of inlet from Nunarraq" (cf p. 19.4)
- Nunaraam Waq'ia*
- ? 3. alu-kaq Site 31. "Namesake" Birket-Smith (20, 138): Alukaq Leer: Aalukaq, "namesake" (cf p. 21.1)
- TC?*
- ? 4. uqci'ag Site 32. (winter settlement?) Leer: Uksilleq, "one who (which) spent the winter"
- Uksilleq*

de Laguna, page 22

1. uxumeqtuli (village to which Raven brought fire?) Birket-Smith (164): Urumiertuli
or uxumiextuli *Uqumyagtuli* Leer: ~~Uqumyagtuli~~ or Uqumyagtuli, "lots of quartz/flint"??
2. atiax-miut "Port Gravina People" Birket-Smith (20): Atyarmiut or Isharmiut
or ic-axmiut Leer: Aciarmiut? (cf following)
Is'armiut Is'armiut?, "people of waking-up"?? (cf p. 28.10)
3. atiat Site 33. "Underneath" Birket-Smith (20, 137): Atyat
[Aciat] *Acirtaguarmiut* Leer: Aciat, "underneath them"
4. nua Site 34. "Cache" Leer: Nuwa(q), "hiding place" (cf p. 28.4)
Nuwa

de Laguna, page 24

1. kayakuk Site 35. "Kayak Place" Leer: Qayalleg?, "old kayak" or Qayarlluk?, "bad kayak"
- ? 2. matagkanuk Site 36. "Sunshine Place" Leer: Macangqanaq?,
or taniyam *Macangegllig* possibly Tanyarram Nuguik
nuquuk
- ? 3. iqalvq (island named after man buried there) Leer: Iqalleg, "one that got dirty" or Iqalluk, "fish"
4. cala-v or tumvialvq (unverified village in Gravina Bay) Leer: Salalleg?, "old clam" or Sala'alleg, "old cannery" Temngialek, "one that has geese" (cf Birket-Smith, p. 125)
5. atiat (site near Hell's Hole) Leer: See p. 22.3
6. xioxolvq (old settlement on lagoon near Hell's Hole)
7. igamv *Igmunn* (site at Humphry's Hole) Leer: Igmunn, "throat"
8. tati'axmiut "Tatitlek People" Birket-Smith (21): Tatitlarmiut
T Leer: Tatiillaarmiut, "people of Tatiilaaq"
9. tati'aaq (Tatitlek) Birket-Smith (21): Tatitlaq, Windy Place
Tatiillaaq Leer: Tatiillaaq, (has to do with wind condition)
10. mam-taq "Smokehouse" (former name of Tatitlek) Leer: Mamtaaq, "smokehouse"
Mamtaaq

de Laguna, page 25

1. aimqiaq (village in Irish Cove) Birket-Smith (137): Aimqaiq
 TC *Aimqiat* Leer: Aimqiiq
2. axtuqackcu- Site 37. "Anybody Birket-Smith (137): Arhtuqashkshumiq
 miq Could Touch Me" Leer: Arhtuqaasquesuumiq, "wanting
Fish Pt. in Fish Bay to tell someone to touch one
 TC *(Agtauq'aryunmiq)* lightly"
3. il-u-ti Site 38. (village in Leer: Ilutii?, "interior of it"
ILutuliq Landlocked Bay)
deep hole in bay
4. kanigayyulq Site 39. (village in Leer: Kangiraurluq?
 or Boulder Bay) Nanwarnalek, "one that has a
 nanuqnalq *Kangiraurluq* lagoon"
5. qiktaqua (former settlement on Leer: Qikertaruq?, something
 or island in Boulder Bay) like an island; Culurtalleq,
 tuluxtaulq "Island" or "Camping
Culurtalleq Place" (cf p. 17.5)
6. palu-taq Site 40. (old village Birket-Smith (21): Palutaq
 at Ellamar) Leer: Palutaq?
7. kuni-n Site 41. (Busby Beach) Birket-Smith (21): Kunin
Kenium *implement for* Leer: Keni'in??, "instrument
making fire for pointing at things"
8. kangoqila (small island between Leer: probably Kinguqlia,
 or Busby and Bligh "the one following it"?
 kanjam islands) Kangiyam Kelua, "upland from
 qidlua the bay"

de Laguna, page 27

1. kangoq7i Site 42. "Where They
 Used to Fish for
 Winter"
2. kanixlumiut? "Kiniklik People" Birket-Smith (21): Kangirtlurmiut
 Leer: Kangirllugmiut?, "people
Kangirllugmiut of Kangirlluk" (cf p. 27.9)
3. qagagdlua "Cheeks" Birket-Smith (148): Qareretlua
4. TC *Qagerwiguag* Site 44. (Palutat
 Cave)
Glacier als.
5. tiktaqulq Site 45. (site in Leer: Ciktawik, "place for
 or Long Bay) dunking heads/bending over"?
 tiktaqua or Ciktawik, "place for trying
Ciktawwiik (TC) to beat"? Ciktaruq or Ciktaruq

de Laguna, page 27 (cont.)

6. makeli (small village in Unakwik Inlet) Birket-Smith (140): Makeli
Leer: Maqili? (having to do with heat or steambath)
7. Un'aquik Unakwik Inlet Leer: Un'a kuik, "that river
SM sounds like 'place to go down' down there"
8. nanuyxnalvq Site 46. (old village in Unakwik Inlet) Leer: Nanwarnalek (cf p. 25.4)
9. kanixlvq "Corner" (village near mouth of Wells Bay) Birket-Smith (151): Kangirhtluq
Leer: Kangirlluk, "head of bay" (cf p. 27.2)
Kangirlluk TC people from Kiniklik used to go there.
10. pukitvm "puki-tvq's Grave" Birket-Smith (151): Pukitumqungua
qu-y-ua (island in front of "Corner")
Leer: Pukitum (?) Qungua
Pukiituum Qungua

de Laguna, page 28

1. kanj-xlvq (Kiniklik) Birket-Smith (21): Kangirtluq
Kangirlluk Leer: (cf 27.9) Kangirlluk
2. napalaxeq (refuge island off Point Pellew) Leer: (cf p. 15.5)
TC? Napalriaq
3. agatiut Site 48. "Cormorants" Leer: Agayuut, "cormorants"
TC? Agayuut
4. nuaxuaq Site 49. (summer camp N of Point Pellew) Leer: possibly Nuwaruat, "something like hiding places" (cf p. 22.4)
TC?
5. uqciuvit Site 50. (a village in Esther Passage) Leer: Uksiwiit, "places to spend the winter"
TC conf. Uksiwiit
6. nanuyxnasag (village site inside Harrison Lagoon) Leer: Nanwarn(ngua)saaq?, "small lagoon"
TC? can't pronounce it
7. oxotu (camping place at head of Passage Canal) Leer: ?
or tuxtaq Tugcaaq probably Tugcaaq, "portage"
8. tuxtiaq (Passage Canal) Leer: (cf preceding)
9. tanixmiut "Chenega People" Birket-Smith (21): Tyanirmiut
Canigerhmiut Leer: Canirmiut, "people of the side"
Canigarminut
10. ica (village in Hidden Bay?) Birket-Smith (20?): Isha, (Gravina Bay)
or ica pangani Leer: Eyak word: iŝxah, "pot" (cf p. 22.2)
Is'a

de Laguna, page 28 (cont.)

11. naxquaʔaq Site 53. (site on island at mouth of Ewan Bay) Leer: Nagkwalleq, "one that was burned"
- TC Nagkwalleq
12. ajexqul_{ik} "Good Weather Place" (summer settlement in Jackpot Bay) Leer: Asiqulek?, "one that has continuous good weather"
- TC?

de Laguna, page 30

1. napalax_{axq}ʔn Site 54. (site on small island off mouth of Jackpot Bay)
- ?
2. iŋim at_{ia} "Under the Mountain" (Chenega Village) Birket-Smith (21): Ingim-atya
Leer: Ing'im Acia, "below the mountain"
- TC Ing'im Acia
3. q_Laxv_Lk Site 56. (a summer camp near Chenega) Leer: Qiawik (cf p. 19.1)
- TC Qiawik
4. aki-xqaq (summer camp on east side of Chenega Island) Birket-Smith (136): Akiqaq
Leer: Akiqaq, "opposite side"?
- TC Akiqaq
5. ʔudyun (summer camp on the west side of Chenega Island) Birket-Smith (136): Tludyun
Leer: Lluy'un?
- TC (?) Suy'un
6. uqciʔŋuacaq Site 57. "The Village Where They Used to Spend the Winter" Birket-Smith (21): Uqshitlinguashaq
Leer: Uksillenguasaaq (cf p. 14.1)
- Uksillenguasaaq
7. ʔayxu_Lk "Silver Salmon Place" (summer village near mouth of Chenega Bay) Birket-Smith (155): Tyaigyulik or (21): Tyayuluk
Leer: Caayualek, "one that has silver salmon"
- TC Caayualek (Nanwag)

de Laguna, page 31

1. v_xʔay_Lk Site 60. (village on N shore of Bay of Isles) Birket-Smith (136?): Uerungayik
Leer: Werngayik or Wegngayik??
- TC W_{ar}nga_ʔilek
2. aniaxtunit Site 61. (village site on Bainbridge Island) Leer: Angyartulit or Angyartunit?
- TC Angyartulit
3. panxat (site on Bainbridge Island) Birket-Smith (137?): Panrhat or Panrhaq
Leer: Painerraat?, "recently formed mouths (of creeks, etc.)"
- TC Panrraq
- SM Paanerraq 'fledgling'

de Laguna, page 31 (cont.)

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| 4. cuqluḡmiut | "Montague Island People" | Birket-Smith (21): Shuqlurmiut
Leer: Sukllurmiut, "people of Suklluq" |
| 5. cuqluq | (Montague Island) | Birket-Smith (21): Shuqluq
Leer: Suklluq |
| 6. maḡaḡ-kanat | Site 63. "Sunshine
TC. Macangegḡḡḡ, Macam | Birket-Smith (135): Matyangknat
Leer: (cf p. 24.2) |

de Laguna, page 32

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|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. taḡuanaq
or
nanuḡanaq | Site 64.
TC. Carwatugaq
n Carwaleh | Leer: Carwaneq, "current"
Nanwarnaq, "lagoon" |
| 2. uqciḡq | Site 65.
Uksilleq | Leer: Uksilleq, "one who spent the winter" (cf p. 14.1, 21.4) |

de Laguna, page 33

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|--------------|--|---|
| 1. atxaq | (unverified village in Stockdale Harbor) | Birket-Smith (5): Atrhaq
Leer: Atrahq?, "going down" |
| 2. nunatrḡaq | Site 66.
Nunacungaq | Leer: Nunacungaq? or Nunacengaq?,
"(cute) little town" |

de Laguna, page 34

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|--------------|---|---|
| 1. puyuḡnit | (unverified site at Point Gilmour) | Leer: Puyurnit, "nagoonberries (wineberries)" |
| 2. qauḡua | Site 67. "Gravel" | Birket-Smith (148, 149): Qaugiaq
Leer: Qauḡya(q), "gravel"
sand |
| 3. uqci-uvḡt | "Winter Place" (name for Wooded Island) | Leer: Uksiwiit (cf p. 28.5) |

Birket-Smith: names on Hinchinbrook Island

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|---------------|---|--|
| Shapulut | p. 45; creek into Constantine Harbor | Leer: Sapuulut, "weirs" |
| Nanuaranarait | p. 161; village below Nunaqtyuk | Leer: (has to do with nanwarnaq, "lagoon") |
| Qilagat | p. 154; mountain above Constantine Harbor | Leer: Qilagaat?, "roof of their mouth?" |

Birket-Smith: names on Hinchinbrook Island (cont.)

Qathukhtuli	p. 161; village near Boswell Bay	Leer: possibly Qategyugtuli, "having lots of ptarmigan"
Qangailik	p. 145	
Napalarianguashaq	p. 130; Little Porpoise Rock	Leer: Napaliryanguasaaq? (cf de Laguna 15.5 and 15.6) -nguasaaq, "small"
Iram-Qadlir-uarvia	p. 134; Devil's Whistle (rock in Double or Anderson Bay)	Leer: Iiraam Qal'iruarwia, "Devil's kind-of-yelling place"
Atunguaq	p. 134; hill above Nuchek	Leer: Atunguaq?, "little song?"
Adlium-Shturnera	p. 134; mountain above Constantine Harbor entrance	Leer: ? Sturnera, (stretching of legs)

Birket-Smith: names on Hawkins Island

Iralik	p. 144; lagoon near Makarka Point	Leer: Iiralek?, "having devils?" or Iraliq?, "moonshine"
TC?		
Nugaq	p. 144; North Island	Leer: Nug'aq?, "something threaded through"
BS 10 Neg'em Qikertungaa		
Paungnaruat	p. 134; brown bears?	Leer: Paungnaruat or Paungnaruat, "something like the bears?"
TC?		
Laqlaruat	p. 134; "brown bears" two stones at Paungnaruat	Leer: Laqlaruat, "something like brown bears"
qitxu-k	p. 134; "frogs?" two stones north of Paungnaruat	Leer: Qetgayuuk?, "two frogs"
BS 11 Qetgunyuk		
Qagiat-Ingriat	p. 134; Seal Cr. Mountain; so. of Laqlaruat	Leer: Qaigyat Ingriat, "Seals' Mountain"
Shukluruni-linguq	p. 144; beach above Makarka Point	Leer: possibly Sukllurniilnguq, "not a good place for Suklluq (Montague Island)" (cf p. 31.5)
Sukllurniilnguq		
Arhuartulik	p. 144; head of Cordova Bay	Leer: Arwartulik, "one that has a lot of whales"
Arwartuli	Arwa Inlet & Cordova Bay	

Birket-Smith: miscellaneous names

Aguitlkuraq	p. 145; "Impossible to Cross" (rocky headland on mainland)	Leer: Agqiillquruaq, "something like..." Agwiillquq, "impossible to go over"
Nashquling- uaruvik	p. 128; "Headache Mountain"; north side of Valdez Narrows	Leer: Nasqulingunarwik?, "place that gives one a headache"
Nigaruvik TC?	p. 39; "Snaring Place"; bare rock off Port Gravina	Leer: Negarwik, "snaring place"
Tingmialik TC?	p. 125; smokehouse site on beach in Gravina Bay	Leer: Tengmialek, "one that has geese" (=Temngilek: cf p. 24.4)
Ulukaq TC?	p. 156; "Looking Like a Tongue"; village on Knight Island	Leer: Ulukaq (from Kod. 'ulu')
Yurhtyulik Yurculi Kalukat OK	p. 118, 129; dangerous place near Chenega anchoring-in p. 21; former village of Tyanirmiut	Leer: Kalukat, "wooden bowls"? "parties"?
Kalugat	p. 156; small islands near Chenega	Leer: (same as above?)
Kidlujun Kelui	p. 163; village near Chenega	Leer: possibly Keluiyun?, "way to go behind (village or natural obstacle)"
Tyaniraq Canigag	p. 21; "Woodless Place" or "Across"; a point east of Chenega	Leer: Canigag, "side" (cf p. 28.9)
Qutyuaq	p. 155; Middleton Island	Leer: (candlefish?)