Nadia Mychajlowska

NM - There was a distillery, where they made alcohol. My father worked as a carpenter, because they needed people to fix things. There were four boilers in a large building. The mash, from which they distilled the alcohol - they dumped that waste in a pit. During the Famine, people would eat from that pit. They would come and eat the mash straight from the pit; maybe it made them intoxicated, but they ate it. And earlier, when things were still okay, people would use the mash to feed cattle or pigs; it was processed grain. But [during the famine] people ate the mash. Golden wheat was used to make alcohol. I witnessed it; I worked there along with my cousin. That wheat was like gold, and it went to make alcohol. We lived near a train station, and they would also take the grain to Russia.

Interviewer - Did people go to [the field] to collect grain stalks?

NM - Yes, they did. But they would beat you for that.