

Interview with Mrs. Ila White (nee Terrill) at her home in Crestview Lodge, Pincher Creek.
6 July, 1995. Interviewer: Leslie Robertson.

Time: Side A - 45 mins.
Side B - 30 mins.

Topic of Interview

Descriptions and anecdotes of homesteading life in the Twin Butte area. Parents ran Post Office and store in Twin Butte. Description of activities in Waterton Park - camping, berry-picking, fishing.

Tape
Footage

Subject

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| 001 | Introduction |
| 003 | Parents arrival from Deerlodge Montana 1903 - covered waggon.
- route: Cutbank - Cardston - Twin Butte.
- Blind Canyon with herd of horses - haying.
- wind.

Homestead on Pine Creek - later Bo Holroyd's place.
- anecdote: sister riding to Twin Butte School - high water creek crossings.

Move to place on # 6 Highway - Old Oil Trail.
- Ila born here. |
| 033 | Father William Terrill / Mother Dora.
- attended school together Deerlodge, Montana.
- anecdote: he smoked / she rode a bicycle - deal - he'd quit if she did. |
| 043 | Terrill house torn down to widen Highway.
- youngest brother took lumber and rebuilt.
- Ila born at home - midwife - Bertha Mc Carthy. |
| 052 | Old Oil Trail
- father freighted equipment to Oil City - drilling equipment to build wells.

Cattle and then sheep.
- borrowing money to mortgage land - sheep pulled them out of debt. |
| 066 | School
- Grade 1 - 8 Twin Butte; Grade 9 Marr School; grades 10 - 12 Pincher Creek.
- One year off between 11 and 12 - no money.
- Mother saved money selling butter and eggs - school early 30's.
- Normal School 1933 and 1934 - surplus of teachers.
- 1939 Bellevue - substitute teacher 12 years. |

- 097 Crowsnest Pass
- 108 Homesteading / Travel
 - everything revolved around horses - travel: 20 - 30 miles for groceries Pincher Creek.
 - Post Office and store - neighbours brought cream - taken into P. Creek to creamery - purchased groceries.
 - Groceries - cold room, bought in bulk - 100 lb bags sugar / flour.
 - house a landmark / barn.
 - trips to town once per year.
- 133 anecdote: Chinooks - father started with sleigh then changed to democrat when snow ran out.
 - Water: hauled from the Creek - well full of minerals bad taste turned pots black.
 - test wells for gas - found flowing wells of water.
- 166 "Proving Up"
 - \$ 10 and reside there for 6 months - for a Quarter section of land - Homesteading.
 - neighbours Mitchells, Myers, Huddleston.
 - Haying - where did machinery come from ?
- 184 Post Office
 - First - log building 0.5 miles West and Sth. of Twin Butte Store.
 - Mail from Pincher Creek and Waterton - sorted into pigeon holes.
 anecdote: customer always received tobacco in large roll - didn't fit the holes.
 - people came for mail and staples - coal oil, sugar.
 - parents paid monthly by Government.
- 218 - George Allison from Mountain View brought mail from Waterton.
- 234 Pop Harwood family
 - Visiting.
 - Pop cooked for Queen Victoria.
 - moved to Waterton - became the postmaster, Ila worked for them 1936.
 anecdote: Bertha Lake hike and horses.
- 293 Bertha Marshall and other Ekelunds
 - house in Blind Canyon - built herself. Description - running water !
 -nursing neighbours.
 - Nels Ekelund
 - Aaron Ekelund - wife school teacher. Horse powered washing machine.
 - Ila worked for family when Mrs. having baby - 50 cents / day.
- 345 Mrs. Glasgow - horse rustler ?

- 367 anecdote: Clyde Hole place - Nth. Twin Butte Hall - Mullens lived there ran store and post office - house burnt down - cow lost calf (crying) - on roof trying to put out fire - burnt feet.
- 388 Fires
 - Huddlestun place - "bucket brigade"
 - landowners burning off stubble to eradicate weeds.
 - Gladstone place - Yarrow Creek Fire got away - fire out before hit Twin Butte.
 - telephones - emergency first phone at Post Office.
- 420 Mrs. Kootenai Brown
 - stayed with Billie Gladstone.
 - couldn't read - Ila's mother read letters to her from daughters in U.S. ?
 - description of her.
- 455 Frenchy Riviere
 anecdote: came into Terrill's with dog team - bells spooked horse team - ran through three fences- lost water barrels.
- 495 Round Ups
 - every summer move cattle up to mountain canyons - out in Fall.
 - Bathing Lake ? - up Carpenter Creek - cattle up that canyon.
- 526 Timber
 - from Forest Reserve ?
 - use sleigh in the Winter - shoot rabbits .
 - poplar - 4-5 inches at the base, pile and let season, Spring get crew together buzz saw.
- Coal
 - smelly but good for banking fires - green logs too.
 - transitions - wood, coal , gas.
 - coal from the Christie Mine - Beaver Mines then from the Crowsnest Pass.

582 END OF SIDE A

- 590 Medicine
 - colds: turpentine and goose grease rub on chest.
 - sore throat: gargling with coal oil.
 anecdote: broken collar bone - playing on a "whirligig" at school.
- 621 Bert Knight - War stories, homesteaded Spread Eagle, later moved to Waterton , 3 or 4 War Vets in area.
- 641 Lord Brooke

- 651 Waterton Park
 - camping after the haying done - 2 weeks.
 - places - the playground and the Flat, swimming Lake Linnet.
- 667 Tommy Whitcroft - Ranger at Goat Haunt.
 - cousin to Ila - staying with him.
 - fishing: bamboo poles, use beef for bait.
 anecdote: bear taking baited line - line strung through the forest.
 - duties Rangers - checking trails.
 - Rangers Cabin, landing dock.
- 694 anecdote: Tommy proposing to woman in canoe - not letting her out until she answered.
- 699 Bo Holroyd
 - checking trails, watching for forest fires.
- 708 Waterton Park
 - entrance free.
 - activities: berry picking, fishing, camping.
 - camping - Pass Creek - ford Creek climb 'Huckleberry Mountain' (Nth. side Bear Mountain)
 anecdote: mother encountering bear - no problem - "leave them alone and they will leave you alone"
 - berry picking process - couldn't afford fruit.
- 737 Camping
 - tents without floors - cheap holiday.
 - Pass Creek and Cameron Lake - bear watching.
 anecdote: near drowning at Cameron Lake - underwater drop off saved by Ed Mitchell and Goble.
- 761 Animals and wilderness
 - left each other alone - problems with photos - curiosity.
 - Homesteaders viewed wilderness as sanctuary - wood, water, grass for horses, isolation a draw back - most had saddlehorses.
- 780 Rules and regulations
 Terrill and Pop Harwood - Rocky Mountain Tourist Outfitting Company.
 - trips from Waterton into the mountains 1910 - hunting.
- Stories and Memory ? influence of one on the other.
- 795 Prince of Wales Hotel
 - brother Ivan worked on Power house.

- Roy and Ed Mitchell looked after horses.
- Ila "resented the building of the Hotel.

U.S. anecdote: 1925 - sister May died of ruptured appendix - family took trip to the
by railway. Mother haemorrhaging.

871 Women - support from each other - isolation / visiting.

881 Changes Waterton Park
- swimming Pool used to be horse pasture.
- "rocking up" Pass Creek - flood 1995 - tore out some rocks ?
- Townsite Campground - motor homes vs. tents.
- businesses, prices, boats.

951 War
- had to dance with other women.
- women running ranches.
- remember men returning from WW 1.
- WW 2 two sons in Forces.

986 Native peoples
- fear of them - and of Policemen - only saw them when something happened.
1007 - written stories of Native peoples.

1036 Horses
anecdote: of her favourite pony.

1094 END OF INTERVIEW

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