

Gertrude Stevens - April 16 1999 interview
born October 1918 in West Seattle

- parents met in West Seattle

- parents married down on

Genessee and 47th
in 1904

Gertrude went to Jefferson School which
was 5 blocks from home

* then to Madison Junior High

only 1 year old when she started

* then to West Seattle High

relates a story her mother told

about the wild life on 47th and
Genessee

- not streets just trails

- pretty wild

- buggy would collect children
from home to drive them to
Lafayette School

- * hear coyotes howling up
on California Avenue

Gertrude describes the early street-cars

- nr. 3 car ran in front of her home
on California Avenue

- streetcars would "wiggled and
wobbled."

- talks about the early street lights



• many streets did not have paving
so they had sidewalks

mode of planks
(4x12 planks next to each other)

• made a sidewalk that was
24" or 25" wide.
(around 1930)

talks about Harbor Ave (around mid 20's)

* houses on Harbor Ave that
were summer homes to people
from Seattle

* cabins had interesting names

* Luna Park

swimming
↳ continued lessons there after Lincoln
Park

↳ Lincoln Park - was just a hole in
ground, had swimming
when tide was in

- hired as Art teacher at West Seattle High

* cherry blossoms trees at Hiawatha Playfield