

Daughter of Chief Jacob

Julie Jacob was a black woman who became the daughter of Chief Jacob, the last surviving Indian chief of the Suquamish Indian tribe. She was born at Port Madison Mill in 1873 and was given to the Indian chief as a gift after her mother died giving birth.

Her entire life was of the Indian culture. She learned basket weaving from her parents, and passed its art down to her children. Today, great-grandson Ed Carriere continues to weave baskets as Julie did, using one of the most unique and creative techniques in the Northwest. Julie Jacob was a great black woman, her life influenced by different elements in a unique way. She was a member of the black race by birth, but an Indian at heart.

The 1880 U.S. Census lists her as a member of the Suquamish culture. Julie never married, although she raised two daughters and a son. Her son, Lawrence Webster, still resides in Indianola.

She died December 12, 1960, at the age of 86. Her obituary was listed in the Bremerton News on December 13, 1960, under the heading, "The Chief's Daughter Succumbs."



Justice of the Peace for Seabeck -1897

Nathaniel Sargent was born in Kentucky, July 4, 1863. Known as "Nat" to his friends, he was born into slavery and after The Emancipation, adopted by a white family in the North. He later moved with his family to Oregon. Because Oregon law withheld rights from Negroes, he came to Kitsap County where he earned a living as a logger.



As early as his arrival, he kept a diary of the time: the weather, what contacts he made, and the work he had done that particular day. A graduate of the University of Illinois with a brilliant mind, he preferred the secluded life his ranch offered and spent his leisure hours creating beautiful oil paintings or writing verses, some of which were sold. In 1897, he was elected Justice of the Peace for Seabeck.

He homesteaded alongside other homesteaders, as they built homes, started orchards, butchered and harvested. He was their friend, yet never imposed and was often invited as a guest. Records show he homesteaded 128 acres, and in 1903 purchased 120 more. He donated land for the Seabeck Crosby School.

A bachelor at the age of 91, he died in Seattle on August 16, 1954.

Black Loggers and Mill Workers

In 1854, the Kitsap Peninsula was the most populous in Washington Territory, in spite of its small size, due to the logging and sawmill industries. At one time, five of the world's largest sawmills were in operation on the Kitsap Peninsula, including Port Gamble, Port Madison, Port Blakley, Seabeck and Enetai Beach Inlet. The mills and logging operations created many jobs for young blacks coming to the Kitsap area. Early records from the mills reported the following black workers from 1870 to 1889: John Glomes, Contrero Frank, Gardner T., James Johnson, Charles Shoomaker, Thomas Webb, Green Sidney, Auquet Blake, Rockman and Dianolo Manuel.