

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Oral History Project

Transcription

TApe 97. 24. 1

Interviewee: Gladys Jenne Ingham

Subject: Jenne family history, local history

Number of Tapes: 4

Tapes: 97. 24. 1, 2, 3, 4

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Interview No. 1

Location: Retirement Home in Moscow, Idaho

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Tape transcribed on: Panasonic Transcribing Machine RR-830

Appendix Materials:

97. 24. 1: Side A

000-029

T: To begin with, you were born in Coupeville?

G: Yes.

T: Were you the first in line of your family?

G: The last.

T: The last of?

G: Five.

T: And who preceded you? Who was your oldest sibling?

G: My oldest brother was *Frank*. *Frank*, *Edna* [Uppencamp], *Manetta* [Green], *Eldon* and me.

T: How many years between the oldest and the youngest?

G: Twelve years. *Frank* was the oldest and I'm the youngest.

T: And what year were you born?

G: July 29, 1901.

T: And where were you born?

G: Coupeville!

T: I mean... in your parent's house?

G: Sure. Not in the street. I was born on the *Gould* farm. You know where that is?

T: Yes. It's now known as the Smith place.

G: No. It's noted as historical grounds. Did you not know that?

T: I knew that but locals kind of refer to it as the *Harry Smith* place.

G: Well, that's all right. Call it what you want. It's the *Gould* farm.

T: It's the *Gould* farm. It's right below Sunnyside Cemetery there?

G: That's right.

T: And your parents bought that from?

G: Never bought it. Never owned it, no.

T: Okay so they rented it. From *Mr. Gould*?

G: Yes.

T: And did your dad [*Ed Jenne*] farm it?

G: Why sure.

T: I've heard your father was a good farmer.

G: You bet he was.

T: And a hard worker.

G: Yes.

030-055

T: Do you remember what kind of things he grew?

G: Everything.

T: Like what?

G: Like what? He farmed and he farmed on the *Gould* farm. For thirty years. He rented it from a rich man, from *Mr. Gould*.¹ Do you know who his relatives were?

T: *Mr. Gould's*?

G: Yes.

T: I know that he was married to an Indian woman.

G: I don't know about that. I never saw him of course. *Hendrickson* was his niece. Anybody tell you that. See they don't know anything.

T: I haven't heard that name before.

¹ John Gould was born in 1823 and died in 1900.

See Jimmie Jean Cook's book, **A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove**, page 87. Cook states here that Ed Jenne and his brothers rented the Easton Ebey farm from John Gould in 1876 and that they, "lived in Eason's home." This would place them on the Gould farm in the 1880 USA census where they were enumerated with their mother, Mary Jenne, as head of the household. For additional information see interview 97.21.1 with Carl Jenne, the son of Will Jenne and first cousin of Gladys Jenne Ingham. **1880 US Census, Sheet 5A, line 24.**: Jenne, Mary [53]. Children: *Jake* [29], *Ed* [22], *Tilly* [20], and *Willie* [16].

G: *Hendrickson* lived in Coupeville, near the town of Coupeville and she was a niece that took over.²

T: The farm?

G: Well I don't know what she did. I guess she managed it. I don't know. She was the niece and she had a lady that lived with her. I don't know if it was a relation or what. But there were two ladies.

T: Did they live outside of Coupeville?

G: Oh no. Do you know where the dock is, and the water along this way? Down in that area. The house still stands I'm sure. Out on the way what they used to call the sawmill but not that far. Just the beginning of it.

T: Kind of before the *Coupe* house?

G: I don't know the *Coupe* house. *Lovejoys* were way beyond.

T: Do you remember where *Captain Kinney's* house was?

G: No. I never knew no *Captain Kinney*.

T: So *Hendrickson* was her last name?

G: Last name. I don't remember her first name.

T: And that's the one that your dad dealt with?

G: Well I guess so.

056-084

T: Do you remember how many acres he farmed?

G: My father? I don't remember, no, I never paid any attention to acreage.

T: Were you expected to help out with the farm chores?

² According to, **A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove**, page 81, Gould's niece was Mary Hendrickson. She lived in Gould's home, on the SE corner of 9th and Gould until her death in 1928.

G: Oh... I don't know what you mean by helping out. We had gardens and chickens and cattle and you name it.

T: Did you have any daily responsibilities dealing with those things?

G: Oh just as much as anybody would that lived in a home and were together.

T: So did your mom take care of the family garden?

G: [Laughs.] She took care of everything, same as my father.

T: Did he kind of do the farming part and she did the garden?

G: They weren't separated. She cooked for thirty people tiling the place.

T: Tiling the.... ?

G: Water. Like it rains now... she cooked for thirty people that were putting the tile in for the water.

T: Where were they putting the tile in?

G: On the land!

T: I've never heard that.

G: Well, a lot of things I guess you haven't heard.

T: Were they tiling like a cistern?

G: Oh you know how people tile so the water is contained where it belongs.

T: And that was on the *Gould* place?

G: Sure.

T: Do you remember, when your mother would cook these big meals, did she have a hired girl to help her out at all?

G: My mother have a hired girl? Huh! No. She didn't have any hired girl. She was a hard worker. She did all the cooking and the baking for the thrashers and you name it.

T: That's a huge job.

085-125

G: Sure. She pumped the water and cut up the beef if it wasn't cut up. Sure. Anybody worked hard. They do now if they aren't lazy. My father had Indians and Japanese and Chinese that worked for him.

T: What do you recall about the Chinese? Did they live on the Gould place?

G: Sure.

T: And did they all live in one building or did they have little separate...?

G: Well there weren't that many.

T: Oh there weren't.

G: No.

T: Do you remember about how many he had?

G: Oh no... a family.

T: Really?

G: Yes. If you know the *Gould* place, where the *Gould* house sets now, that's the house I was born in. And I'm the only one of my family that was born in that house. That house was rebuilt. That's a new house. Have you ever seen Penn's Cove? [A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove.]

T: Yes. I've got it right here.

G: My father built a house, or had a house built-he didn't build it himself. He had a house at Prairie Center that he sold to *Will Jenne* his brother. Did you know that?

T: Yes. *Carl* told me that when I interviewed him a few weeks ago.³

³ Theresa interviewed Carl Jenne and his wife, Iva Sherman Jenne on April 27, 1997. Carl is the son of Will Jenne, Edward Jenne's brother.

- G:** There's *Carl* and there's *Florence* and *Paul*. The three youngest in that family. And *Carl* is one year older than I am. My brother, *Eldon*, is one year older than he. *Eldon*, *Carl*, *Florence*, and me. Did he speak about his family?
- T:** Oh yes. Especially the triplets.
- G:** What'd he tell you about them?
- T:** Oh just that it was a handful for his mother and that she always made sure they were dressed really nice because people used to come to see them.
- G:** Did he tell you where he was born?
- T:** British Columbia. On the island.
- G:** That's right. These four last children were Canadians. And the first four were U. S. children. They were born on the La Conner flats. And there's oodles and gobs of relatives there. I've been in their houses, some of them. And I know some of them. But there're more relatives than I know I have. You see, there were five brothers, or six brothers, were *Jennes* that lived. *Carl's* father lived on the La Conner flats and that's where the triplets were born. I guess *Everett* was born there first too, he was the oldest.

126-

- T:** *Carl* told me they went up there because his dad had another brother up there.
- G:** Oh there was a lot of brothers there... well, I don't know if there were a lot or not but one of my father's brothers had five daughters that were on La Conner flats. Did you know that?
- T:** Was one of them *Hazel*?
- G:** *Hazel* yes. *Hazel* was one. *Kalso*... what was her name? She married *Kalso*. And *Kelso* was quite a man. He always had deer meat and the authorities were trying to catch him and they never could catch him. You know, he lived on that water along there. He lived at where you go to Samish Island. It's the waterfront there.
- T:** Padilla Bay?
- G:** That could be. On your way to Samish Island.

- T: That's where he lived?
- G: He lived up on the hill as you just turned in. Bayview.
- T: Was the father of these girls *Fred*? Or *William*?
- G: *William* wasn't the father. *William* was *Carl's* father.
- T: That's right. So it must have been *Fred*.⁴
- G: I don't know who it was.
- T: Do you remember going up there to visit?
- G: I visited as I got older. Married, and we'd go through there and visit.

161-243

- T: Do you know who delivered you at home? Was it a midwife?
- G: Midwife, sure. I don't know if she delivered me at my birth or no. But she was a neighbor of the community. *Mrs. LeSourd*. I don't know if she delivered me or not but I guess she must have because she was with me at my birth and my marriage and when my children were baptized at church. The *LeSourds* and the *Jennes*, my mother and father and the *LeSourds*, weren't very far apart. You know if you went to Ebey's Prairie, here's the Gould farm and you come up the road and the *LeSourds* are the first house. I guess it's still there, an old house. And then John, his second marriage, lived next door, married the *Herrett* girl. Did you know the *Herretts*?
- T: I don't know them but I've heard of them. I knew that he married a *Herrett*.
- G: The *Herrett* girl, what the heck was her name?
- T: *Ada*?

⁴ Fred Jenne's formal name was George Frederick Jenne. He was recalled in a published history as George F. Jenne in *An Illustrated History of Skagit and Snohomish Counties*. [Interstate Publishing Company, 1906, p. 606. It states that he came west in 1876, first settling on Whidby Island where he farmed leased land for eight years until he could "accumulate sufficient means to justify purchasing his own place." In 1884 he bought 180 acres of land six miles west of Mt. Vernon. He married Mary Halfrick in Illinois in 1873 and together they had six children: Jane, Lizzie [Kalso], John, Tillie [Callahan], Ida and Hazel. George Jenne died on June 3, 1902.] A copy of this article may be found in **Appendix**.

- G: Yes, *Ada. Ada Herrett*. She was lame. Very capable. She was a seamstress. When she grew older she used to come into my mother's house when we moved in our house as you go to Ft. Casey, depending how you went. Do you know where our house is?
- T: On the Engle Road.⁵
- G: No, no. Our house wasn't on any Engle Road. You come from Coupeville straight up and keep going. The back way to Fort Casey. Our nice house was there to the left but I hear it's a shack now.
- T: Oh no, I don't think...
- G: Oh yes, it's all run down and all trees and shrubs. You'd never the place. You know who owns it?
- T: I know there's a family that's renting it. I know *Mrs. Pratt* owned it after your father died, *Lena Pratt* bought it.
- G: She bought it from my mother yes. And her son owns it now. I don't know if he's dead or not. His name is *Robert*.
- T: He's still living.
- G: Well, not in very good shape I'm sure. My nieces from California who are both trained nurses were up two years ago on their way down from Alaska and they stopped to see him, they were quite concerned. They said he was real heavy and in bed. Wondering who was around to take care of him. I told them nobody. Well, you know, he was an old man's son, only son he ever had. And I don't think you know this but *Lena Pratt*, my cousin, she was engaged to *Lem Wanamaker*.
- T: Really!
- G: Yes! I could give you a lot of this. She was engaged to *Lem Wanamaker* who was a medical doctor in Seattle. *Pratt* came along and she fell for him or he got hold of her anyway. She married an old man. And of course, he was a millionaire. When *Robert* was born, *Lena* was his second wife. When *Robert* was born, *Frank Pratt*-have you ever seen the place?
- T: Yes. Up by the cemetery there.

⁵ The Ed and Agnes Jenne house is at 538 S. Engle Road.

G: Okay. They've got a house up at the cemetery. There's a little valley as you come in through the gate and you can go down. Well there's a house here. When he [Robert] was born he built a house for *Lena* and *Robert*. They had to live in that house. They couldn't live in his house. They lived there till he [Robert] was pretty well grown. Until he got a mustache his father said. I don't know how old he was. But that's why *Robert* was kind of queer. Like his father. *Lena*... I don't think she looked at the money but I just don't know. I used to go to their house and *Lena* used to rock me to sleep for going to bed at night. Her mother and father, you know they lived on the corner there.⁶

T: Yes. The *Kohne* house.

G: Anyway, *Robert*, I don't know where he went to school or anything about it, he never went to school in Coupeville. I don't know anything about his education because I was gone.

244-318

T: When did you leave?

G: I left when I graduated from high school. 1920.

T: Where'd you go?

G: I went to school. Well anyway, finishing up about *Robert*. *Robert* married an old lady, his mother's friend, and they lived in Seattle. And that's the house that *Robert* was in, her house. She died. Of course, now he's in a nursing home if he's still alive. I don't know. But he was well acquainted with people in the market in Seattle.

T: Pike's Street Market?

G: Sure. We all liked fish because we had a big fish trap at Ebey's Prairie. Between Ebey's Prairie and Port Townsend. You know that?

T: Yes. Did you have it, your family? Did your family run it or was it just out there.

G: Oh no. No, no, no, no. We didn't own it but we were able to go to it from our good house too. I mean, our late house. All we had to do was go down to Ebey's

⁶ Lena Kohne's parents were Anthony "Tony" and Tillie [Jenne] Kohne. They lived on the SW corner of Terry Road and Engle Road in Prairie Center. The Kohne house burned down.

Landing. We'd come with a boat, take us out, get a great big fish like this. [Gladys shows with her hands a distance of about three feet.] We'd have fish for...

But we took them things too. They'd get vegetables and fruits and cakes. You name it. It was a two way street.

T: It was a trade basically.

G: It was a two way street, sure. But there's a lot of things I could tell you about *Robert*. When he lived in Seattle he used to come to Coupeville. He never went to his mother's house. He stayed in the hotel down there at the end of the wharf. Yes. Funny thing. *Lena* went one time, [laughs] to the Post Office to get her mail. You know how they used to have magazines and things in there to sell. Well, of course you don't because you were too young for that. But anyway, she took it home. *Frank* said to her, "Where'd you get a magazine?" She said, "I got it at the Post Office, I bought it." "YOU take that back!" "Oh sure."

She never handled money. He bought all her clothes and everything. She had no choice on nothing. That's probably why *Robert* was queer. I say he was queer, maybe he wasn't, but I say he was queer.

T: He bought all of her clothes?

G: Oh sure. You buy anything for somebody like that. And you know, he committed suicide *Frank* did. Did you not know that?

T: I knew he committed suicide. Did he do it at home?

G: He must have done it at home. I don't know. But he had cancer and no cure. During the first World War, you know, he had a nice job. Come to Penn's Cove. I had pictures and things, lots of pictures, we used to go and his crew would come in and we'd swim with them and we'd give them fish because we had these lookouts. Have you ever seen those lookouts?

T: For smelt?

G: Yes. They had these lookouts, there were several of them and we'd sit up there and watch the schools come along. We'd go out with a net, everybody on the beach would get fish, buckets of fish.

T: Where were the lookouts at? Down in front of Coupeville there?

G: Penns Cove. You know where you go down in there... they have a lot of summer homes, did have. Not a lot of them. It's the first turn and I'm sure that house is still there because we used to rent it in the summer. We spent the summer there and then we'd go back and forth, take care of our chores, the separator and stuff on the farm.

319-384

T: So was it at Good Beach?

G: Yes. Penns Cove.

T: So you would rent a house down there in the summer.

G: Yeah we'd stay there. And when I was married we rented the little boathouse at the end there. What'd we pay? We paid fourteen dollars for two weeks and we had a rowboat and of course we could dig clams and go fishing. Cheap living. It was nice.

Robert liked that market. [Pike's Street Market.] He knew people in the market and I asked him what kind of fish... of course we bought salmon, but what kind of smoking. And he told me what kind of smoking, I have it in my records. I don't know what kind it was anymore. And he sent me some fish.

T: From Seattle?

G: Yes. He told me what the fellow's name was, in fact I think I've got his name someplace and he sent me the fish. Then I ordered some more when I wanted some one time. Great fish.

T: So it sounds like.... were you friends with *Robert*?

G: No. He was too young. But when he used to come, I don't know when this was, and lived in that hotel, we used to pass words with each other. And I suppose he went to see his mother, I don't know. He was a queer person.

T: That must have been hard for his mom.

G: I don't know. It don't pay to marry a rich man that is a loner. He didn't associate with anybody. He'd go anyplace on the boat, you know we used to travel by boats, but if he'd go anyplace he'd cover his hand with his coat or something like this, and turn the doorknob to open the door. He'd go get no germs. He was quite

queer, yes. And he's buried in the cemetery right as you go in the gate from their place. And we have a lot in there, a *Jenne* lot. It's our lot.

T: I've seen that.

G: I suppose there's room for you in there if you want to go.

T: [Laughs.] I like that cemetery!

G: There's my father and then my mother, my husband, my sister's husband, and my sister. She was supposed to be given to the University of Washington, it was all in the papers and everything, I don't know how come but she was buried in Coupeville. I don't know how her sons could be so dumb that they didn't know that because I saw the papers and everything. Her body was given to the University of Washington.

T: Now what was her name?

385-429

G: *Manetta*. Her name was *Grace Manetta*. And my father used to entertain lots of people who loved to visit with him because he talked broken of course. He couldn't say *Grace* he said "Thracie." So they never called her *Grace*, they called her *Manetta*. But people used to come spend hours with my father talking. They loved to visit with him, reminiscing, old times and things.

T: You know, ever since I first heard about your dad, and read about him, he has always fascinated me. I don't know why. I've been drawn to him and I don't know if its.... He seems like he was a very...

G: Interested in everything. He was interested in education. My mother and father said they never wanted to leave us any money. They wanted to put their money in education into a person. Which nobody could take from you. Isn't that true?

T: Very true. So they supported you then going away after high school, to go to college then?

G: Oh supported me! They saw that I had my education. Not only that but some of *Will Jenne's* [children.] *Carl Jenne's* two sisters. My father saw to it that they got their education. A nurses education in Seattle. Had his family of five and saw to it that they had their education. Now *Will's* family, they got their... they did their own education. *Carl, Paul, Florence...*

End of Side A: Tape 97. 24. 1

Side B: Tape 97. 24. 1

000-059

T: Your dad did that for them! That's really something.

G: Yes. Now let's see, *Leephe* was the only that, I will say, didn't do anything. She married a nice, nice man and lived on La Conner flats at Mt. Vernon. She had one son, a nice individual. She was the first twin that was born. Then there was *Howard* and then *Hattie*. *Hattie* always said she kicked the others out. Did *Carl* know that?

T: No. I'll have to tell him.

G: You see he didn't have the opportunity of knowing all that. You see his father, Will-my father's youngest in the family-bought his place there [in Prairie Center.] It still stands. It's a historical place.

T: It's a bed and breakfast now.

G: Yeah. It's a bed and breakfast. And across the street, where they have those trailers. *Florence* [*Jenne*] owned a trailer and lived in there. *Florence* was very queer. Lived to herself. She taught school in her days. I don't know if she's alive or not.

T: No she just died.

G: She died, when?

T: I think she died a year ago.⁷

G: Well there was a man there in Coupeville... well, let's tell you. *Florence* had a trailer there and when *Paul* [*Jenne*] lived in Seattle he was in the insurance business, he married a lady that my sister-in-law knew in Yakima. And they ran this apartment place. I've been in it and my daughters have been in it. Anyway, she died when *Paul* was sick and then he wasn't manager anymore. They managed this place nicely but they wanted to charge him too much money for rent and he

⁷ Florence Jenne died on February 3, 1997 in a Seattle nursing home. See her obituary in the **Appendix** following the Carl Jenne interview, 97. 21. 1.

got out. He wasn't going to pay that. So he moved down to Coupeville in a trailer by *Florence*. And *Florence* and he... we visited them one time and *Florence* offered us tea and cookies, she was real nice. In school she was studious and she talked real softly. No recess or nothing, to herself. And one time she got mad, and boy I tell you! She could talk louder than I do. Watch out for the little ones that are weak and quiet.

But anyway, she took care of her mother [*Lena Jenne*] in this house. Her [mother's] husband had a house out under the trees on Smith's Prairie. He was hardly ever home.

T: *Will?*

G: *Will, yes.*

T: Were they like, separated or he was just gone working?

G: He didn't do anything to speak of.

T: He didn't farm?

G: I don't know whether he did. I don't know anything about him. He used to come, occasionally, to our late home, where I was.⁸ He used to come and help my father saw wood. And if we were gone, or my father didn't take care of the cows-we had milk cows-he'd come in and milk the cows. Things like that. But anyway, this house was given to *Florence* because she took care of her mother. And *Florence* had *Paul* will his, I'll say assets, belongings, to *Florence*. She had all of that and this man managed *Florence*'s money in Coupeville. The family, I think there were about seventeen of them, they wanted to come and get.... I had one of them tell me they wanted \$2000.00 a piece. And this man said they couldn't have it, they could have \$1000.00. I don't know if you know the man I'm talking about. He could tell you a lot.

060-133

T: This was whose *Florence*'s money?

G: No. This was *Carl*'s money who gave it all to *Florence*.⁹ And she had considerable. She had considerable. And she had it in a bank and these relatives, one in particular, wanted to tell them what to do and I think she's still messing

⁸ Gladys is referring to the Jenne house out on Engle Road.

⁹ Gladys actually was referring to Paul Jenne here, not Carl.

around but *Florence* died so that's good because she was kooky. She wasn't responsible. She didn't even know she was in a nursing place in Seattle. I guess the squabble is over. I say the squabble. I sure wouldn't an aide to it. It's none of my business. I don't care what anybody does. I tend to my own.

T: Do you remember, across the street from that house, do you remember the *Morrills*?

G: Yes.

T: *Andrew* and *Abigail*...

G: Yes. Who was it, the *Wanamakers* in Coupeville... not *Lem*.

T: Pat?

G: I don't know what his name was. Nice looking fellow. Black hair, big fellow. He had a car and he got under the car to see about something and gasoline went all over and burned him. Oh he was in an awful shape. He survived yes. In those days, I remember people going down the street said they could smell this stuff. I don't know how they ever took care of him or anything.

But getting back to the triplets. My mother was with *Lena* when they were born. And *Howard* darn near died. And my mother put him on the oven door with it open of course, with some protection, and kept him warm.

T: Had your mother had children by this point?

G: Well there's quite a story. My mother [*Agnes Smith Jenne*] was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. And she was there and her sister, *Ada Custer*, you've heard of *Ada Custer*....

T: Yes I have.

G: Her sister *Ada Custer*, after my father's first wife died with her birth, child, they're in a corner there in our lot.¹⁰ You can see the tombstone, its a white thing. As you come up the steps, not from the *Jake Jenne*'s place where the fence is, up our steps, her burial is in that corner and we're over in here. Now what did you ask me?

¹⁰ Edward's first wife was Louisa A Jenne. She died on March 29, 1885 at the age of 20 years. Edward married Agnes Smith on April 5, 1888.

- T: Your mother was in Cincinnati...
- G: Oh yeah, and her sister then... *Pete* farmed. My father hired him.
- T: *Pete*?
- G: *Pete Custer*. And *Ada* was his wife. And so *Ada* came, *Ada* was already there when my father's wife died and she [*Ada*] asked my mother to come and help her. So my mother and my father got together and were married.
- T: Your mom was *Agnes*?
- G: *Agnes Cora*.
- T: *Smith*.
- G: Yes. Her name was just exactly like our name. Her family name was Schmidt. S-C-H-M-I-D-T. Our name was never *Jenne*. Carl don't know that does he?
- T: I don't think so.
- G: Okay. Our name was *Yenne*. I say our name, [I mean]my father's parents. I had my dad's confirmation. They were German Lutherans. Oh gee. It's a big thing like this, it's in the archives or library over at WSU. Because they've got all my stuff. I haven't got anything any more to speak of. No I don't. I've gotten rid of them, at this stage of the game, my family has all of my things, and I'm not bragging but I'm the only one in my family that'll give much in the history. My two nieces from California came up last year to get history. I had the start of a history and I gave it to them. I didn't care for it. I gave some of it to a relative here in Moscow and my nieces came to get all of the information they could get. The children of my oldest sister *Edna*. *Edna Velma*. Her name was *Uppencamp* when she married.

134-168

- T: Where did she live as an adult?
- G: Well she taught school in Oak Harbor. Her schoolroom had thirty students in it and taught music and went to school. And she worked in Seattle when I went to school and then she married *Rudy*. *Rudy* was at the base at Coupeville which joined, the base joined our farm.

- T: Fort Casey?
- G: Yes. And if you came around that edge from the lighthouse down to Ebey's Prairie you know that nice little road?
- T: Hill Road?
- G: I don't know what they call it. They call it Hill Road? What'd they do that for? I wonder who they named that after.
- T: It used to be the Hill Donation claim.
- G: I don't know anything about that. Now, maybe you don't know this but *Robert Pratt* has a house along there in that woods. I don't know if he's ever been in there or not. He probably has. Anyway, you can't see it. I don't know if it still stands. You know what they called the **Angel Steps**? Used to go down the bluff to the beach.
- T: Where? Where at?
- G: Up on that edge. Going along from Fort Casey.
- T: The Angel Steps.
- G: Well. Maybe that wasn't the proper name but that's what I called it. You could go all along the bluff there. Did you ever see the big guns there? No, you weren't born then.
- T: They have the big guns back.
- G: Well, I'll tell you. During the first World War, you know where the lighthouse is?
- T: Yes.
- G: During that first war, nobody could ever get through those straits. Here's Ft. Casey, Ft. Worden, and Ft. Flagler. I don't know if anybody ever tried it or not. I don't think so. But Ft. Casey, I don't know about the others because I've never been in them, but I've been all over where those guns were. You would never know there was a gun in that bank. I think the guns have all been removed now. I had a picture of them and information on them which I've given away. Quite a historical place. Even that lighthouse. It's still there isn't it?

T: Yes.

169-227

G: Now, my father used to take a rowboat from Ebey's Landing and row over to Port Townsend. What for? To sell butter and eggs and anything that we might have. I think eggs were about five cents a dozen, something was five cents a dozen, something was ten cents a dozen. Imagine!

T: I can't imagine rowing over there. Do you know how often he would do that?

G: Well, I don't think every day. No, I don't know how often. He went through, what do you call it, the **Panic Days**, and you didn't know what you were going to have next time.¹¹ When he farmed the *Gould* farm, *Gould* said go ahead, keep farming. You couldn't sell potatoes, you couldn't sell anything. Worth nothing. But my father, besides farming, he bought and sold for **Mingrings** in Seattle. He sold wheat, potatoes-which he would buy up from you and me and take in or send in, my father had **angora goats**... beautiful! Not too many but he liked animals. He had angora goats, beautiful white goats and he had sheep. And when we moved into my last home he had a trough, a stand about like this that had a trough. And a bucket down here about this high. And he'd tie the sheep in there, don't know which way, and slit their throat and the blood would run in the bucket and he'd dress out the sheep in our barn, you've seen our place-nice big barn. That's where it was, and then I sewed the cheesecloth on the sheep to send them to market to this Mingring or places in Everett and Seattle.

And I don't want anything to do with mutton! I can't stand the smell of mutton! But mutton is the nicest meat you can eat. Healthiest. When my son was born and I took him to the specialist in Seattle where *Frank's* wife took her daughter and he said mutton was the best meat you could eat. And I guess it is! Think of what pigs eat. Think of what fish eat. What do they eat? They eat dead things in the bottom. You and I that have floated around the water.

T: What a happy thought.

G: Well, it's true, it's true.

T: You're right, you're right. And sheep eat pasture, grass. Would your dad have your sheep sheared? And the goats?

G: Oh that's what the Indians... the Indians sheared our sheep. In there

¹¹ This would have been the Depression of 1893.

[A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove] is a picture of *Snakelum*. *Charlie Snakelum*.

T: He would come out and do that.

G: Well, he didn't come out. He lived up a long ways. You had to go in a rowboat to get to his place.

T: So your dad wouldn't take the sheep over to him?

G: Oh no, no, no, no.

T: He would come.

G: Yes.

T: What do you remember about him? *Charlie Snakelum*?

G: I remember him the way he looks in that book. We used to go up there as we were growing. During the summer, spend days with him. My two brothers used to go up there in the summertime.¹²

T: And would they go out in his boat with him?

229-276

G: Canoe! But I didn't finish my story on *Pratt*, this yacht of his. During the first World War. It was a nice yacht, all teak wood. And he offered it to the government and they wouldn't have it because it wasn't right for them. So he gave it to a friend of his. Who he gave it to, I don't know. Not anybody in Coupeville or around. I don't know who it was.

T: He just gave them the boat?

G: Oh sure. He wouldn't have it either.

T: He sounds like an interesting character.

¹² In a letter from Gladys Jenne Ingham to Theresa Trebon dated July 12, 1997, she stated that her two brothers would row to Snakelum's place and spend a few days there fishing. Then, "I'd go with my parents the last day and we all had a picnic which was enjoyed by all as my mother was an excellent cook."

- G: Yes. I guess in his days he was. I'm not saying anything to be against him. These are just facts.
- T: No. It's good to know them. The family owned a lot of land in that area. *Robert* still does. I don't know what's going to happen to it when he passes away.
- G: Now there was a person, it tells about it in one of those editions [A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove]. They made two editions... is this the first edition or the second?
- T: I'm not sure. Let me take a look.
- G: When the first one came out, and all these people that they had interviewed, they knew all of our family, and what'd they put in there? They put in there that there was *Frank*, *Edna*, and *Manetta*. Never mentioned *Eldon* and I. If that's the first edition.
- T: That's the first edition.
- G: Okay it's not in there. So all the people that knew us in the family, you know what I did? I wrote this person [Jimmie Jean Cook] and told her I too was a member, and my brother. They wrote it in the second edition. This happens when you write books.
- T: Yes. [Theresa reads from Cook's book] *Edna*, *Manetta*, *Frank*.
- G: *Frank* was the oldest. And they put out a second edition and our names are in it.
- T: Good!
- G: Well you see it wasn't right. I did work that I had to be accurate. And I still do! I check everything pretty darn accurate. And that's why, well the saying is, I have good eyes, good ears, and a good nose. I can hear anything, I can see anything, and I can smell everything. They get a kick out of me here. I got out sometimes and if they're serving something with mustard on, they did one time-a ham loaf. And I could smell it sitting in here. As soon as I got out in the hall it was worse. And I said, "My gosh, where's the mustard." They said, "Gosh you've got a good nose." I said sure.
- T: I could tell all the way down the hall.

277-342

G: Now, I was telling you about the Indians, the Chinese, the Japanese. The Chinese had a house down here. The *Gould* house is here the roadway comes this way and there's a little indentation in the *Gould* house as it is now. Then we had an orchard and back in here was a little grove where the Chinese, and this was many, many years ago, where the Chinese had the house. I don't know, it must have been on the grounds. I don't know what the arrangements were, if they built it or what. But the Chinese you know, they had places up above, at night they'd smell and smoke this stuff you know.

T: Opium?

G: Yes, yes. Smell this stuff. My brother and his cousin, were they born the same day or a day apart? I don't know, something like that. And anyway, the two of them full of devilment you know, they tied the front door with a rope and *Harris* went underneath with a little, I don't know what it was-it would explode.

T: Like a firecracker or something like that?

G: Well, it was worse than a firecracker. And lit this thing, and of course, he didn't get out in time and he couldn't see very well. And oh, these Chinese, they all fell to the floor and they couldn't get out the door for a long time. And by that time, *Harris* and *Frank* were way up to the trees in the back and of course they never found them. They [the Chinese] were out with their, what do you call them, not knives but the things that they had.

T: Like scythes?

G: Something like that. And the next morning somebody from the Chinese house came over to tell my father about it. And I guess *Harris* happened to come by and he was bandaged up. But they never caught them. Awful thing to do wasn't it.

T: Did they all live in one building?

G: Oh sure, sure. Now the Japanese had a place and they're very neat. They're just as neat as they could be.

T: Also on the *Gould* place?

G: Oh yes. Now, what I'm going to say... Chinese you can trust them. Japanese, no. Chinese were trustworthy, in those days.

- T: Do you remember anybody specifically? Any names of any of the Chinese that worked on your dad's farm?
- G: No, no.
- T: On the [1900 US] census, right next to your dad's farm, there's *Moon Look, Ah Kim, Ah Jim, Lee Hop*.
- G: That's probably some of them, I don't know any of them.
- T: Were there any women? Any Chinese or Japanese women?
- G: Oh sure. But I think there were mostly men in this Chinese place but I'm not sure. I was too young see. I moved from the *Gould* farm when I was seven years old.¹³
- T: To the other place.¹⁴
- G: Yes.
- T: And did your dad have Chinese over there as well?
- G: No, no.

343-364

- T: Do you remember any living in the vicinity? Of that area, that second house?
- G: No, no.
- T: Because people have said that in the woods by your dad's place there, that second house-there were those woods, that there was a Chinese house in there.
- G: No. Never that I knew of.¹⁵
- T: Your dad owned a lot of land over there. I was interviewing *Gus Reuble*, do you remember the *Reuble* family?
- G: My father didn't own a lot of land. He owned our place, this white house.¹⁶

¹³ This would have been 1908.

¹⁴ This would have been the home and farm that Ed and Agnes Jenne built on South Engle Road.

¹⁵ Both Lillian Huffstetler and Freeman Boyer Jr. stated that there was a Chinese house in the woods just south of the Jenne house on Engle Road. ✓

[Gladys is referring to a photo album that is near her chair. We begin looking at it at this point.]

This I got from my granddaughter that lives down here. I've given this to her. This is just one that I recall that she had. When I gave it to her, it's been several years ago, and it's hers. It's hers to do what she wants with. So everything is out of it but there's a few things in it.

365-411

G: There's our house.¹⁷ Do you recall that house. Now, you see the road was quite a ways, well not quite a ways, but the house sits back. Oh I'll say there's as much room between the road as there is from here to past this roadway here. [Gladys points out the window.] We had a fence around the place and a nice walk through here on down to the front gate, a nice big parking place. We went to church all day on Sunday. My folks were Methodist. My father was a Lutheran but boy, you couldn't stump him on the bible. He and the *LeSourds* I would say, were, what do you call them? Not monitors... they wouldn't have had a **Methodist Church** if it wasn't for them. They saw to it that it was built. Come Christmas time my father, and I guess the *LeSourds*, I'm not sure, but I know those two were pillars, pillars is what I want to say, pillars of the church.

They saw to it that the church was built, come Christmas time a tree was in there, a great big tree. My father furnished a barrel of candy-you're too young to remember seeing that. They used to have barrels of candy, barrels about this deep, about this big around, with layers in it. He furnished that and sacks of oranges.

T: Oh that must have been a treat.

G: Oh sure. We wouldn't have had a Christmas if it wasn't for him.

End of Side B: Tape 97. 24. 1

@ Theresa L. Trebon, 7-97

¹⁶ According to Gus Reuble Jr., his father purchased their farm on Ft. Casey Road from Edward Jenne.

¹⁷ This photo of the Jenne home may be seen in the **Appendix** following this tape.

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Oral History Project

Transcription

Tape 97. 24. 2

Interviewee: Gladys Jenne Ingham

Subject: Jenne family history, local history

Number of Tapes: 4

Tapes: 97. 24. 1, 2, 3, 4

Date of Interview: 5-14-97

Interview No. 1

Location: Retirement Home in Moscow, Idaho

640 N. Eisenhower Street, Moscow, ID, 83843-9542

Phone:

Interview Conducted and Transcribed by:

Theresa Trebon

1062 Sterling Rd.

Sedro Woolley, WA 98284

Tape transcribed on: Panasonic Transcribing Machine RR-830

Appendix Materials:

97. 24. 2: Side A

000-040

G: And he had a horse and buggy, lantern on each side. Well, we traveled horse and buggy too, sure. And he took me to church, or got me and brought me home, coming home, the horse was a fast trotter. He pulled back on the lines. And I said, "What's a matter, can't that horse run?" And then he'd tap it and pull back you know. And he got me home and I never went with him anymore.

There we five are, now you see how old that is. That was the cutest little dress, red dress, I can see it yet.¹ This is oldest sister, my oldest brother. This is *Grace Manetta*, and this is *Eldon* and that's me. I don't know where that was taken.

¹ This picture of the Jenne children may be seen in the **Appendix** following the transcription for tape 97. 24. 1.

There I am when I was three months old.

T: With your mom?

G: Yes. That's when I'm three months old. I had a picture with my mother with my brother who's two years and two months older, exactly to the day that I am and I gave all that stuff to their families.

Now, there's nothing more in here much that you would be interested in. See there's a trip when we went to California one time.

T: Is that on your dad's place?

G: Yes that's me! That's me on our last house. That's where I was driving the horse to the hay fork to put the hay up in the loft.

T: You ran the fork horse?

G: I did at times yes.

T: That's great.

G: Oh yes. That's my mother. We went on a trip up to Canada. She hates dogs and dogs always came to her but she wasn't used to them. We had dogs and they always went after her and wanted her to look after.

There, that's at our house too. That's me and this was my first beau. He was in the military at Fort Casey.

T: Do you remember his name?

G: Yes. But now that you ask me....

T: It'll come to you at 3:00 in the morning.

G: Probably so. There I am, there's my mother on the sidewalk and here's our Model T Ford, and here's Eldon and I. I was about three years old. My brother shaped us like that to take a picture.

Here I am with the school faculty. I took them out to pick rhodydendrons.² People don't know rhodydendrons, wild ones. But now cultivated ones are beautiful.

T: Is that a lake behind you there?

G: No, it's a road. This is out on Smith Prairie way. Where the rhodydendrons are.

041-99

G: That's our Model T Ford, you know you had to crank them? My brother and I used to take my sister over to Oak Harbor come Monday, take her to her school in Oak Harbor. And the windshields you know were split. So he'd hold his gun out and I'd try to do the driving. Somebody on the road would hear a gun firing and boy, out they'd come. I of course killed the engine and *Eldon* had to churn it up and we got out, they never got us.

Here's my brother and I at the beach. And here's our two cars and here's my oldest brother and I at home. This is at Penn's Cove. I got in first after our swim, *Manetta* says, "Oh gosh, that feels terrible." See here, she thinks it's worse.

Now here's my mother, *Eldon*, my father and me when we went to California.

Here, did you ever know that the road from Prairie Center out to my place was covered with water?

T: I've heard that, I've heard people had to get in a rowboat.

G: Okay. There's my car going through, see our car. We had to go through in a car. We had three foot of snow that year, I don't know what year that was, I was in school. But we had three feet of snow. My father had a sled, a two seated sled, two horses, and we used to go down but when this melted you see, that's what happened. I used to walk clear from our house, down to Prairie Center to go to school.

T: What would you do when it was flooded like that? How would you get into Prairie Center.

G: This way.

T: It didn't get too deep for the car, the water?

² This was the way Gladys pronounced it: rhod-e-den-drons.

G: Apparently not.
Here's the *Gould* farm. Here's the house where I was born. And you know the *Shermans*, he had **gooseberries**. And I was one of the best pickers they had. Because they had containers they made, they were about like this and they were shaped in a V to go under this bush. And you get your gloves on that they had you wear, and you're supposed to go down the vine like this. But don't get the leaves off, just the berries. Okay, they'd just go down and rip everything off. I didn't.

Now here's I when I graduated from high school. This is my first year in college. This is a trip we took to California with my parents to visit my two sisters that were down there. That's my father and me on the trip. That's my mother and I on the fallen big trees down there.

That's when I went to school at WSU. I'm a graduate from there. Seventy-three years ago.

T: Class of 1924?

G: Yes.

This is my mother's sister, this was the oldest sister, *Mary* that lived in Seattle. That's *Eldon* and that's my mother. That's all the pictures, really, that I have left.

T: So the rest of your photos you've given to....?

G: Oh they're in the library over at WSU, the family has them. In fact, they have my college album, they have my brother's college album of sports. There were an awful lot of *Jennes* that went to WSU. Lot of them. My aunt, *May Jenne*, she was the wife of *Martin Jenne*.³ She taught schools and I think she was Superintendent of Schools. Lena Pratt was Superintendent of schools.

100-159

G: Now, you ask about my brother. They hunted him up once.
[Gladys hands Theresa a newspaper article.]⁴

³ A written autobiographical sketch of Mary "May" Bingham Jenne may be found in the Appendix following this tape. The original is held in the archives of Washington State University, Pullman. Martin and Mary Jenne lived on and off in the Coupeville area during their adult lives.

⁴ A copy of this article about Eldon Jenne may be found in the **Appendix** following this tape.

T: "86 year old Eldon Jenne. 'How did you ever find me the?' old time leaper wanted to know."

G: Kind of interesting.

T: What made him take up pole vaulting?

G: Eldon never opened a gate to walk through. He always jumped over things. And my oldest brother [*Frank*], as he got older, after he came from the war he settled in Mount Vernon and he was a banker. *Eldon* was in high school and there wasn't much chance for an improvement in sports. *Frank* was an athletic person.⁵ And *Eldon* graduated from Mount Vernon. Anyway, the poles were never these limber things, they went in the woods and cut their own. And *Eldon* liked to pole vault and he started pole vaulting and he went to school where *Frank* was in charge of athletics and he developed and went through all these sport things you know and that's how he got his start. But *Eldon* says in his articles nobody knew anything about pole vaulting in those days. Now *Eldon*-oodles and gobs of medals. WSU would have loved to have had them. But of course, the family comes first. And I didn't know WSU wanted them. See all the medals he's got. ✓

T: Did he have children?

G: Yes.

T: And they went to the kids.

G: They took what they wanted, yes. But it's a shame. WSU wanted them but they don't know that. *Eldon's* picture is in the Hall of Fame over at WSU. He was the first athlete from WSU, the first fame from WSU. Now there's a lot more, this was in 1920.⁶

T: Antwerp, Belgium. Did your parents go to see that?

G: Oh no. Wouldn't have time. Now, talk about records and things being correct, *Eldon*, when he went to go across to the Olympics, they questioned his age. Coupeville had *Frank's* age down on his passport which was ten years older than *Eldon* so there was quite a question there. You've heard of people not having birth certificates? I never had a birth certificate. Two years before I retired we got to talking about you ought to do this, you ought to do that so I went inquiring

⁵ Frank apparently persuaded Eldon to come and complete high school in Mount Vernon and so he transferred there midway through high school.

⁶ Eldon Jenne was a pole vaulter on the US Olympic team in 1920 at Antwerp, Belgium.

about my birth certificate. They didn't have it. I wrote to Olympia, they didn't have it. I caught my brother in Portland, Oregon visiting my brother, of course he was at home when I was born. He verified [I was born.] I verified through my college records, marriage-mine, and the children's birth. So I got a delayed birth certificate. I used to make fun of my husband, he was born in Kansas and he never had a birth certificate. And I said, "Kansas must have been a backward state." Gosh, if he knew about me, he'd laugh at me.

160-204

T: Do you remember a woman name *Nettie King* who was a midwife?

G: No.

T: She lived near the *LeSourds*. She delivered all of *Mamie LeSourd Bantz's* kids.

G: Bantz's. I guess they're all dead.

T: We have this great picture of her holding all these babies. She delivered *Knight Smith*. I just wondered if you knew her.

G: Well, now get back to that. After my father left the *Gould* farm, *Harry [Smith]*, who was my mother's brother, I think he was hired by my father or anyway, he was on the *Gould* farm. And when my father left, he rented for a while and then he bought. And *Georgie, Georgia*, we always called her *Aunt Georgie*... they had a house, the house is still standing, *Jeanette* lives in it. Do you know *Jeanette*?

T: I've heard of her.

G: You ought to go see her. Her name is *Jeanette Henry*. She lives on Sherman Road? Black Road.⁷ She took care of her father at the house. He was all right but she lived there and they lived together and she was in charge. The mother had died. And naturally, he gave the house to her.

T: The house on....?

G: The *Gould* house now, as it is now. And that piece of land in there. Then there was *Knight*, who was the oldest, and *George*, the youngest. They married, they both died, the wives were in charge but before that the boys, I say, talked *Jeanette* into giving up her house and going to this house on Black Road. She should never have done that. They saw to it that she had and was comfortable. She

⁷ 1476 Black Rd.

should never have done that. That house was hers. *Carl* owns in now. *Carl* and his wife live in that. That's the way things go you know. But they came to an agreement, it's just me. I don't think that was right.

205-237

Now this fellow, was his name *Perego*? He gave land up, you talk about *Pratts*, above there, land to my mother and some others that were mentioned in there.⁸ I don't know who they were but I know what my family told me. But my mother never asked for it or anything. So some of that land belongs to her. And then I guess the *Pratts*, *Pratt* got it or something, the land that was there. I don't know what'll ever become of it.

Now when *Eldon*, *Manetta* and I were in our house, my house last-I have to put it that way, I was seven, *Eldon* was nine, *Manetta* was four years older than me so she was eleven. Seven, nine, and eleven. We used to take a little stuff to eat, go up the road and walk all the way down to Ebey's Landing. Spend the day hunting agates. Oh! We had buckets and jars of agates, beautiful things. And they had smoking wood. You know, that floated in. And we'd go down there and we'd smoke wood. And when we'd go home, we didn't want my mother to know anything about it. So we'd go down in the basement and eat jelly or something so she wouldn't smell smoke on us. [Laughs.]

T: What do you mean you'd smoke wood? You'd actually take pieces of wood and...?

G: And light it and smoke it, sure! Didn't you ever smoke wood.

T: No.

G: They called it smoking wood. It's hollow.... Got a lot of holes in it. It floated in I guess, I don't know. But we used to spend the days hunting agates and things.

238-292

T: Did you ever find any **Indian artifacts**? Or did your dad?

⁸ Gladys is referring to the final will and testament of George Perego as mentioned in A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove, page 85. In August of 1897 Perego drew up a will that left land to six of his friends. 1/4 each to Dr. C. Martin and Ed Monroe. 1/8th each to E. Watson, A Wanamaker, Mrs. Ed Jenne, and Mrs. F. LeSourd. No action was taken by the heirs at the time of his death and the land was sold by the county as tax title property in 1902.

- G: We never did. I had some, I guess when I got older. Where did I get them? I guess up near Snakelum point, I guess we got some.
- T: Do you remember what they were like, what kinds of things you found?
- G: Oh yes, but I don't have them anymore. I don't know what ever became of them.
- T: Were they like an arrowhead type of thing?
- G: Looks like that, yes.
- T: Would your dad ever plow stuff up in the fields?
- G: No.⁹ But Ebey's Prairie, I guess that house is still there. *Ebey* lived in that house. The Indians came across the straits in a rowboat, knocked at the door, *Mrs. Ebey* came to the door and they wanted to see him. He came to the door, cut his head. Pretty long black hair. I never recall this of course, I remember my folks telling me, beautiful long black hair. He must have been a handsome man. And they went across in the fog. But that head was recovered. That's all I knew about that story. But the *Herretts* eventually lived in that house. *Ada Herrett* lived in that house. And the *Herretts* and us were good friends because we used to come to the beach and we used to go up and they used to come and then there used to be a *Herrett* house from Prairie Center into Terry, what were their names?
- T: The *Terry* Family? *Charles Terry*?
- G: Yes. That house, the *Herrett* house was on the corner and my sister finally bought that house.¹⁰
- T: Really?
- G: Yes.
- T: Which sister was that?
- G: *Manetta*. And she owned the *White* house.

⁹ This contradicts information that local farmers have given about the Ed Jenne farm being one of the richest artifact sites in the Reserve. According to both Freeman Boyer Jr. and George Bishop, the Jenne fields, and the Bertha Kaehler White farm which adjoined the southern edge of the Ed Jenne's farm, abounded in artifacts. It is possible that Gladys wasn't aware of this given the fact that she only lived there for eleven years and was not intimately involved with the farming.

¹⁰ This house sits on the SW corner of Terry and Ebey Road. 82 Ebey Road.

T: In Coupeville?

G: Yes. The *White* house. *Bertha Kaehler* married my *Uncle Jake* and the *Kaehler* father had no use for that because he didn't like *Jake* because he ran the pool hall and alcohol. And he disowned her. When he died, or somebody died, in those days you generally gave every child a dollar or something. But she wouldn't sign it, and never did and held up everything for years. I don't blame her.¹¹

T: She had hard feelings.

G: *Manetta* bought that house.

T: The *White* house?

G: Yes. And the *Manetta* sold that house, I don't know to you. She sold it and bought the *Herrett* house on the corner there, by *Terry's*. And I don't know who owns it now. There's a lot of history on that island.

T: And especially right in the Ebey's Prairie area. It's so neat to hear you talk about Ebey's Prairie because there hasn't been anybody that's really talked about that part of it.

293-382

T: What was **Prairie Center** like when you were a kid?

G: It wasn't!

T: There you go. Nothing there.

G: My mother eventually sold the [Ed Jenne] house to *Lena [Pratt]* of course.¹² What'd she sell it for? Five thousand dollars? Ten thousand dollars I guess. Which was a bargain. The house alone to build cost five thousand dollars.

T: Now your dad put in...

G: He had it built. Let's put it that way. That and the barn and the garage and the grain house.

¹¹ This story is recounted in *A Particular Friend*, Penn's Cove, page 86.

¹² Lena Kohne Pratt was the niece of Edward Jenne.

I was home with my two children, they were infants, and my dad had a cow come fresh. You see we had a big barn lot there and a gate to confine them. And then there was a gate where you could put the horses and things in. This cow had a calf and you can't leave a calf with a cow or you'll lose the milk. So the cow came down [from the woods where she had her calf] to get water. I don't know the length of the time. We had a great big place where they got their water. My father had that built. And he shut the gate and kept the cow in for a certain length of time. I don't know if it was a day or two days. And then he followed the cow back through the woods. He didn't want the cow to see him so he gets up on a great big log and it was rotten and it gave way and he fell and broke his neck. And laid there. How on earth he ever got... it was quite a ways to walk down there where the barn lot was. And I was home with the children. And my mother said, "I think there comes your dad. And it looks like he's hurt." He was walking with his head over like this. I don't see how he ever lived.

We got him in the house and we called the ferry at Deception Pass. Called the brother first, *Frank* in Mount Vernon. Authorities came and picked him up and the ferry of course wasn't running. It had to make a special trip. And he was taken to Mount Vernon where my brother lived and into Seattle and had a cast put on his neck. His neck was broken. My brother was with him when the doctor's, I call it surgery his [operated on his] third vertebrae. The third one was dislocated and the other one was broken in some form. And so they put him in a two inch cast. His whole head, all that was out was his arms. I had pictures in another album of mine and they're all gone now. Down to his hips. And all that was out was these arms.

And after he got out of the hospital he walked like this. Of course, he couldn't walk to see where he was going, and they went to Mount Vernon where my brother was. And my father was quite ambitious, he wouldn't sit or be idle for anything. He gets up and of course he fell. Made an awful crash. And then they took him back to Seattle but nothing was hurt. He was in that cast for three months and of course when they removed it, like an incubator person, we had to take him back to Seattle and my mother was with him and they said it was all right to go back to the hotel and he swooned away. The change. And she couldn't think of the doctor's name or anything. But they got him back to the hospital and got him taken care of and he got back and recovered. He lived for I think it was seven years. He would've lived till he was way past a hundred.

381-428

G: He used to take a sack of wheat, both hands, just like I would lift this. And they used to get such a kick out of him because he was very accurate and exact and he'd tell people how to saw wood. So they played a trick on him and put the

roughest pieces for him to show them how to fix it. I think it told something about that in there. [A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove.]

T: How much education did he have? Do you know?

G: I don't know anything about his education. I know he was born in Baden-Baden, Germany which was near Alsace Lorraine. Now *Carl* [*Jenne*] has got it in his view that there is English in us. There is not any English in us. He could have English in him if his mother had English.

T: I think his mother was German. Lena was...

G: She was German but she could be English too. We have no English in us. My children have English because their father was English. He was not born in England, he was born in Kansas. But his parents and his relatives were English too.

T: Where did you meet your husband?

G: WSU.

T: What was he doing?

G: Going to school. And he worked his way through school. He was a smart man. He tutored people in chemistry. I had to take chemistry because I was in nutrition and foods. I didn't understand it. I was memorizing all those things. He tutored chemistry.

End of Side A: Tape 97. 24. 2

Side B: Tape 97. 24. 2

000-

G: So he took me home and I don't know if we had another date or not. And when he got me home he asked me for a date for the next weekend. I said, well I didn't know what I'd be doing by then so I didn't know. Because he reminded me of that fellow in the buggy wanting a date.¹³ Of course, he never knew that. And he

¹³ See tape stop 97. 24. 2A-000 for this story.

said he very near didn't call me. Well, that'd been all right too. But we really had a good time. We went to dances on the weekend, walked the railroad tracks. He was connected with the college. He got his masters degree and he had a job before he got that at the Liton experiment station. Then he went into extension work, then he went in as a specialist at Pullman. We lived there for what? We moved there in [19]41 and he died in 45. So we were there four years.

So I never planned on working. My son was in the military, Navy, and he came home and he was going to quit and I said, "You do as you know your dad would want you to do. You finish your military." *Dorothy* was just enrolled her first year at the college. And of course, they were concerned about me. You do as you know your dad would want you to do. Then he got out of the Navy, his time was up, and they both graduated from WSU.

T: Now your daughter's name was what?

G: *Dorothy Bowman* now.

T: And your son was?

G: *Donald. Donald Eugene.* And there's their pictures. *Dorothy* when she finished high school, *Donald* when he was in the Navy. He's a year older than *Dorothy*. And they called me from the college and wanted to know if I'd come up to work. And I said I was no good. I didn't know shorthand or anything. That wasn't what they wanted. So I went up and they hounded me all the week, "Work full time." And I got tired of them asking me so I said, "I'll try it and if I don't like it, I quit and if you don't like me say so." I worked for almost twenty-one years.

T: Doing what?

G: I worked at the University, I was schedule clerk, I placed all the classes at the university. Put out the courses that they take. Had a great big map from about this wall to here. You don't put two people in one room. You have the days up here, you have the hours, you have the rooms, the capacity. You don't put fifty in a room that holds twenty. You have to know what you're doing. I was firm. I was firm and they still call me firm.

038-091

T: When did you retire from that?

G: I retired in [19]66. Thirty-one years [ago]. I didn't intend to work, didn't need to work, but I worked.

T: What year were you married?

G: 1925.

T: And your husband's first name was?

G: *Irwin Malcom. Irwin Malcom Ingham.*

T: And you did it all in the days before computers.

G: I worked on a computer. They had it where we'd run the class cards. And then you know on the computers, what happened today is sad. You punch the wrong button, you don't know what you got. Okay. I run the computers for class cards and things, put out the schedule and people that work in the main place come across something they didn't think was right so they change it, didn't tell me, I come across it later. Caused a hell of a mess. They found out, they better tell me when they do something again.

[Gladys relates some woes about her bank and health insurance.]

092-

T: Did your dad keep his accounts in a ledger book for the farm?

G: He had it... and I had that book! I guess he had a lot of them. But I had, maybe it was the last one. A great big book, about this long, about this wide. You know who kept the books? My mother. She's a business person, so was my father. And all of us children are too.

When I was small, when we moved, we three on our way going to Ebey's Landing, wild gooseberries. You get them when they're ripe and you get them when they're sour. We'd stop and pick so many. Who can make the worse face. [Laughs.] Oh, we had lots and lots of fun.

T: I'll bet. It seems like such a perfect place to grow up.

G: We could sit on that front porch and watch the boats go through the Straits.

T: Do you remember sailing ships with sails?

G: No, no. Ships that go clear to Canada. Still do now. All those big boats.

T: Do you remember ever watching them unload the **fish traps** when they would come down and dump the fish? Would you ever go down and watch them put the fish into a scow?

G: Well, I know what they put them in, yes. But not at this fish trap. It was at Ebey's Landing. It was out quite a long ways of course. But we used to go and see them spear the fish, get a fish for us you know.

T: Did your mom do any hand work? Like knitting or....?

G: She didn't have time. She pumped water, did all her cooking, baking and everything. Now a days people don't know how to cook. Look at these kids today. Having kids when they're kids themselves.

You wouldn't know what it was to buy a loaf of bread-it wasn't to be had! You cooked all your own stuff. I guess that's why we were so healthy, I don't know.

T: I think so. Did she can?

G: Oh.... Half gallon jugs, yes. Half gallon Ball canning jars. They sell them in the stores now.

T: I've never seen a half gallon one.

G: Half gallon one, oh heck, we'd eat a half gallon in one meal. My father was a good healthy eater, we all were. Mush bowls were like the size of your plates, indented. He'd eat a great big dish of that. We'd have canned food or fresh food if it was. Great big dish of that. Oh we had hearty meals. My mother did all the cooking.

131-153

T: I often wonder what it was like for women back then, trying to manage having a family, trying to manage all the things that had to be done.

G: They could do it, sure. My mother'd do our sewing when we were asleep. Flour sacks. She made our underwear out of flour sacks.

T: Did she really? Did she make quilts?

G: Oh yes. She washed the wool, carded it, had big looms, not looms but....

T: Quilting frames?

G: Yes, quilting frames. Yes, we all had wool quilts. She gave them to her sisters and we all had them.

T: Did you save any that she made?

G: Not any more I don't have them. I'm pretty old now. I'm not old, I'm young but I mean in years. I gave some to my family. I don't have any. All I have is what you see in here.

T: But somebody in your family has them?

G: Oh I guess they're all wore out by now. See, my daughter has been in Hawaii, she's lived in Hawaii for forty-six years.

T: What island does she live on?

G: Oahu.

T: Does she live in Honolulu?

G: Not right in the city. She lives about ten, fifteen miles out. Kailua.

T: I know where that is. I've been there. What took her over to Hawaii?

G: Her husband worked in the dairy, graduated from WSU. Worked in the dairy.

T: Over there?

G: Yes. In charge of it. Probably pretty much started it.

154-195

T: So would you go home to Coupeville from... did you and your husband, once you married, stay over here then, in this neck of the woods?

G: When the children were small, no, we traveled. His folks lived in Everett. My folks were at Coupeville. We went to Penn's Cove and Samish Island, spent time in there.

T: Would you take the steamer up from Everett, the boat?

- G: To where?
- T: Penn's Cove.
- G: Oh no. Take our car.
- T: Okay so the Deception Pass Bridge was in at that point.
- G: Oh yes, but you could take the boat from Mukilteo to Langley. I haven't been to Coupeville for a long time. I don't care about going back anymore. I'd like to see *Jeanette*. I correspond with her. Visit with her, I think from her letter, I think her son died. I'm not sure but I heard that. I must write and find out. But do visit her. She tells me she's getting old. She told me how old she was. I guess I could figure it out but I don't. *Knight* was the oldest. And then I think it's *Jeanette*. *Georgia* was the youngest and there's a couple of sisters in there, I don't recall all their names. Because I don't see them. Been away for a long time you know.
- T: What kind of man was *Harry Smith*? What was he like?
- G: Nice man. He was okay. [Laughs.] *Howard* used to work for him.
- T: *Howard*?
- G: *Howard Jenne*. *Uncle Harry* of course had horses. I guess he whipped a horse one time and *Howard* squealed on him. [Laughs.]
- T: Not supposed to do that huh?
- G: Well... sometimes people make a mountain out of a molehill.
- T: And your dad had some horses didn't he that were really...
- G: Sure! My dad had horses and he trained his horses. They do their stuff out in the barn lot or someplace else before they go in the barn. Somebody told him one time you couldn't do that. He said, "You think not?" And they stayed in the barn lot till they did their stuff and then they went in the barn.

196-249

- T: Did you guys have a well at that house or a cistern?

G: A cistern. Had a handle you had to turn. My mother had to draw her buckets of water and bring them in the *Gould* house in that door where they sink is. We used to have our bathes once a week in front of the stove in a great big tub. Not only one but when one was out, maybe two were in. Those were the good old days.

T: What do you remember about going to school in Coupeville? Do you have any memories that stand out?

G: Oh sure! I showed you the teachers [photos.] I took them out for getting rhodydendrons. They liked me, and I liked them. *Aunt Tillie [Kohne]* worked, her house was at the corner. *Tony Kohne*. I used to go over to there at noon and have corn meal mush with Carnation milk on it. And I'd go home and I'd tell my mother how good that was and she about had a fit!

Speaking of Carnation milk, I'm noted in Pullman for a story on Carnation milk. I belong to lots of faculty members[hip] and we had bridge clubs. This one in particular, about seven, nine tables at a time. Used to meet in homes. Come Christmas time we'd go to a fraternity or sorority house. We happened to go the Theta house on this Christmas. And you either bring something or you pay an amount to meet the same, or they'd order the whole thing and then we'd pay. All the same. And of course, in the sorority houses they had great big long tables, sixteen and eighteen can be seated at a table. And there were married people, single men, single women like me, and of course we all knew each other. And this particular group asked me to eat with them this Christmas night. So I sat at the table and they started telling stories and I thought, "Well, they're all right but they're not as good as my stories." So I listened to quite a few of them and then I said, "Well I have a story too." So I told my story. I said there was a lady who entered every contest in her life. So she sat down and said, "Carnation milk comes in little red can. 'Tis the finest in the land." Then her son came home and he saw this on the table and she got busy and she'd left this on the table. He sat down and read that and finished it up and sent it in. He said, "Carnation milk comes in a little red can. 'Tis the finest in the land. No tits to pull. No hay to pitch. Just poke a hole in the son of a bitch." And they laughed. And I'm noted for that story. It's gone all over Pullman, I'm noted for that. Isn't that cute!

T: [Laughs.] That's great! Where did you hear that? Do you remember where you heard that?

G: No. I don't know where I heard that.

250-

G: I heard another thing too. There was a man, every other word that he spoke was a swear word. And his son came home from school one day and his father asked him what he learned. "Oh!" he says, I learned a whole lot!" "What did you learn?" "Well, I learned three plus three, son of a bitch, is six. Four plus four, son of a bitch, is eight." "You learned that?" "Oh yes," he said, "I sure did." "Well I'm going to school with you in the morning." So he goes to school with him in the morning, the teacher writes up on the board, "Three plus three, the sum of which is six." I guess he watched himself a little more carefully. I just think that's darn cute!

T: That's a great story! [Laughs.] That's a good one. I like that.

G: That's two of my good stories.

T: Well, why did your mom get upset that you had Carnation milk? Because it was from a can?

G: Because we have cows!! We have cows. And *Aunt Tillie* [Kohne] never had any cows.

T: They didn't?

G: No.

T: What did *Tony* do for a living?

G: Not much of anything. I think he was some city official. The book tells you what he was.¹⁴ [A Particular Friend, Penn's Cove.] I don't know much about him. He had cherry trees and I picked cherries one time and he never paid me so my mother didn't like that. So she went up and bought some cherries from him and never paid him! My mother wasn't going to stand for that. He was a cheat!

T: What did your mom do after your father died?¹⁵

G: She lived in that house for I don't know how many years. I don't know what year, she bought a house down at Prairie Center. What in the heck were those people's

¹⁴ Tohy Kohne died in 1943, his wife, Tillie [Jenne] Kohne died in 1916.

¹⁵ Ed Jenne died in 1943, Agnes died in 1964. Both are buried in Sunnyside Cemetery.

names? They were real nice and they were so good to my mother. You know, visiting and stuff. And my mother gave her a lot of her own things. They were hers and they belonged to her. I have... see those vases over there? Turn on this light here.

See those vases? Lift them up and take a look at them. Those are I don't know how many years old. Those were my mother's mother's vases.¹⁶ They are a pair. And you've never seen vases like that. My mother used to put things in there like receipts. She used to have them on our buffet.

T: They're beautiful.

G: I have a vase down here, that wasn't my mothers but that's what they call a Rose vase. I had a friend in here who asked "Is that a Rose piece?" And I said yes, and she said, "You mind if I look at it?" And I said no. So she picked it up and said it's a collector's item. Pick it up and turn it upside down. I think it has Rose marked on it.

T: Roseville. Yes. This is worth a lot of money.

307-398

G: We used to collect, when we were married, we collected stamps and money.

[Gladys shows me some proteas that her daughter sent her from Hawaii.]

T: Did you ever go to Hawaii to visit your daughter?

G: Oh gosh! I wish I kept time of how many times I was over there. I love to fly. I've been all over the world.

T: What other places have you been?

G: Well, you know, I told you I gave everything away....
[Gladys hands me an article about her travels.] Take it home, you can have it. Not only that, this is from the Pullman Herald, no, Pasco Herald. [Gladys hands me another article about the following story.]¹⁷

¹⁶ See a photo of these vases in **Appendix** following this tape. The mirror behind the vases is discussed in tape 97. 24. 3B, tape stop 307.

¹⁷ See this articles in the **Appendix** following this tape.

We lived in Pasco from [19]29 to 41 when we came back to Pullman. My husband was the extension man at that time. And you know the state of Washington has thirty or forty some, thirty-nine counties. And at the time Coulee Dam was being spoken about my husband was County Agent. He and the Chamber of Commerce man put up an exhibit at the Coulee Dam spot where the President of the United States was coming through to see about all of this. And he had corn six foot tall, watermelon, cantaloupes, onions. This is all in the library at WSU. Pictures of me, two ladies from Wenatchee that had apples. Me-had peaches. We were standing and the car came up. He was sitting in the back with his son. Marvelous person. And the two Wenatchee women went up first and he thanked them for the apples. I was the last one and he took a peach, and I had forty, he said they had wonderful peaches in Georgia, [but] nothing like this. Of course, then they had a meeting, my husband and I sat on the platform of course, and the man from the Chamber of Commerce, our invitations were blue. And all that's at the library. My mother's youngest brother was Superintendent of all the excavation at Coulee Dam. His name was *Pop Smith*. His name was *Frank*. I gave them [WSU library] the folder that was sent to me, his picture in it and everything. And it tells about this at the bottom here, what I told you about.

T: That must have been really something.

G: Yes. Some people gloat about what they've done. And I've asked a few if they ever gave the President of the United States a gift. Hmmphf! They didn't know anything about that. You can have that.

399-429

T: Thanks! I really admire Roosevelt. They have his wheelchair over at the Coulee Dam that he used when he was there.

G: They haven't got Clinton's huh?

T: No! [Laughs.] Just his. That's great.

G: Too bad wasn't it. I'm not a Republican, I'm not a Democrat. I vote for the person. My mother used to vote one way and my father another. I don't know what party they ever belonged to. Too darn much party business. But I guess you have to have unity. I don't know. I vote for the man. One cousin¹⁸, my brother *Eldon's* daughter, he had a daughter and a son. The daughter is at San Antonio and in her last letter, we correspond all the time, and I made some remark about how I couldn't stand that old [Bob] Dole. His eyes just get me. I guess he's all right, I don't know but I just can't stand him.

End of Side B.

End of Tape 97. 24. 2

@ Theresa L. Trebon, 7-1997.

¹⁸ I believe Gladys means niece. Her brother Eldon's daughter would have been her niece, not cousin.

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Oral History Project

Transcription

Tape 97. 24. 3

Interviewee: Gladys Jenne Ingham

Subject: Jenne family history, local history

Number of Tapes: 4

Tapes: 97. 24. 1, 2, 3, 4

Date of Interview: 5-14-97

Interview No. 1

Location: Retirement Home in Moscow, Idaho

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Tape transcribed on: Panasonic Transcribing Machine RR-830

Appendix Materials:

97. 24. 3: Side A

000-050

G: ... In Seattle at the Cornish school of music. I entertained them out at **Fort Casey** when I was quite small. What else was I going to tell you?

T: Where would you sing at Fort Casey at?

G: In their regular place where they had all their entertainment, all their meetings and stuff. A great big platform. I had a pretty lavender shirt on and sweater and a pretty little skirt and boy, you never heard so much clapping. Oh yes, I sang a lot.

T: Did you really?

G: Oh, I know what I was going to tell you, about old Dole.¹ My brother was in duty. He was in three of the major battles. He got home. I sang a lot. Funerals, church, you name it. Weddings. I happened to sing at a funeral, right down in Coupeville by the dock, I forget [his name] he was in the auto business. And his casket was here. I never wanted to look at dead people. I never saw a dead person before. But out of the corner of my eye I could get a glimpse. I looked the other way. And I went home, *Frank* happened to be there, and I said, "It was the first dead person I ever saw." And I said, you ever see any? He looked at me, he said, "I walked over thousands and thousands of them." And you know, during the wars, now even, First World War, if they didn't like you, who was the commander or the captain or where ever you are, what my brother was, they shoot you, get rid of you. What do they say? "Lost in combat." When it was your own crew that killed you. It happens today too. You know that.

T: So he was over in Europe during **WWI**?

G: Oh sure, sure.

T: Was he with the Army?

G: Yes. Captain.

T: Was he ever stationed at Fort Casey?

G: Oh no, no, no. He took his commission at the Presidio.

T: When those guys came back from WWI, nobody talked about what they had been through?

G: Now it's all this. But when Dole, he was injured, he's not the only injured. And he got out of it pretty lucky.

T: Well, it's not necessarily fit to make you be the President of the United States.

G: It's terrible. Look after they're after him. [President Clinton]. Maybe there's crooked work. I don't know. They say no. I don't know, I don't care. But it's not the way our Commander of our country... should be respected. I asked *Eldon* one time, I asked him a question. And he looked me straight in the eye. He said, "He's your Commander isn't he?" That's all he said. He could've given me the

¹ At the end of tape 97. 24. 2B, Gladys was discussing politics. In this section, she is referring to the recent Presidential campaign whereby Bob Dole, the Republican candidate, had repeatedly referred to his record during WWII and his war wounds.

answer. He wouldn't do it. If you're a true person, you don't, you don't pass that stuff. I just hope Clinton can complete his term, his health will hold up. I do not think he's a well man. I've seen him on TV and I'm pretty sharp with my eyes. I've noticed on his left side, under here, if you ever see him on TV again you check. He has something here I think that affects his voice. It looked like he had surgery there. But I just hope he can complete his term. We can't stand a greenhorn, let's put it that way, with conditions the way they are now.

049-133

T: When you were a kid, would you ever go out to Fort Casey to their doctor?

G: Oh no, no. When **Frank** was in the Service, and during those bad years when things were rationed, my parents could go to the **Commissary** and get things. But they never overdid or got things that they shouldn't have. You know, coffee and everything.

[Gladys discusses the current medical care of the Armed Forces. And then..]

They're doing so much for children now. They're starting pretty late, they didn't do anything about children when I was born. Families took care of them. The trouble is, it starts at the home. You send your kids now a days to school, the school has to train them, and look at all the things they do. The poor kids are not to blame it's the parents.

T: And society keeps pointing at the schools saying you're supposed to fix this but it's not where the fixing needs to be done.

When you were a kid, your parents took care and made sure you were...

G: Sure! Nobody gave us a shoe or a stocking and in fact my folks wouldn't accept it, I know. They helped other people.

T: Well, it sounds like they did.

G: They sure did. That's a picture of my father you know.²

T: That's great. Is that a portrait or an actual picture?

G: That's his picture. Forty-one years old there.

² Gladys points to a picture of her father hanging on her wall. See a copy of this in **Appendix**.

T: Handsome man.

G: Yes. he had black curly hair. I know when I was small and people'd come and I'd happen to be in town, they'd see me walking and say, "That's *Ed's* daughter." I walked exactly like him they said and they said I resembled him. I don't know if I did or not but I guess I resembled somebody. People see different things you know.

T: You said he was sort of an agent for that place in Seattle with his crops.

G: He was a buyer, what they call buyer and seller.

T: Did he do that until he retired from farming?

G: Oh he did that while he was farming too. He started it before he finished on the farm and then, of course, he did more. But he did a lot when he was farming.

T: When he was farming where would he sell his crops? Through this place or did he ship them out on the boat?

G: Well, he sold his stuff you see. They'd buy cattle, everything. They bought the sheep that we butchered. And as I told you, the eggs and the butter. My mother, of course we had a churn, and she churned, made her butter, and they asked for a crock and we sold her butter at Prairie Center. She couldn't begin to fill the orders, period.

T: Would she pack them into a shape?

G: Yes. Nowadays you know, you have all kinds of things to shape them but you do it on your own. I'm sure they were nice, I don't recall it. But I remember them telling me.

T: Carl was telling me that when his dad had that house built he put in a really amazing furnace?

G: Well, I don't know if it was amazing or not. We had a nice home. We had a great big attic, it was as big as your living room. And all of us children had a corner, a space, it wasn't a corner-a great big space. We come home from school, all our belongings, mine went here. Five of them. Love letters and all that sort of thing and books from college and college stuff. We all had a place. And our house had one, two, three, four... and what you call a sewing room but it was off my parent's

room, which was kind of [a room for] if you were a little kid but it was a nice bed, about this size, we had all those bedrooms, all on the third floor. No the attic, then the bedrooms, then the living area. A beautiful home, the woodwork was beautiful. What did you ask me? Oh, the furnace downstairs. Downstairs was a nice cellar. We had steps with a lid over them, two sides that went down. It was a furnace-I guess it had asbestos about this thick, and we used logs about that long from our woods. We stored other things down there, I guess tools. And we had pretty furnaces in gold in the rooms of the house.

T: Like radiators?

G: Yes. We had a fire place in the living area, we had a great big kitchen, great big table you know. My mother had **thrashers**. Everybody wanted to come when we were in this house. Never missed any meal. They came for breakfast, she made hash and nobody's hash like my mothers!

T: So that was a good place to thrash then? [Laughs.]

G: Oh they all come for the meals, yes.

134-

T: Did your dad have his own thrashing machine?

G: Oh no. I forget the name of the man but I can think of it sometime maybe, but anyway, I was small, on the Gould farm. Had these big logs and they bought the thrashing machine. A sack on each side and they had these like, baseball sacks that they fixed it in the sacks you know, pounded it down. And this man that ran the engine he had books and candy maybe, and stuff for me. And of course, he'd be chopping wood. I don't know how old I was, I wasn't too old, he had his ax up like this and I ran under his ax and I tell you, he was done for the day. He was as white as a sheet and my mother had to give him liniment to drink.

T: Why, because he...

G: Oh he could've killed me you know! He come down with his ax and I ran right under when he was doing that. So I didn't go back to the thrashing machine for a while.

T: I'll bet you didn't! That probably scared the heck out of him. I wonder who that was? So did they power that thrashing machine with wood?

G: Yes. The engine, I'll call it, was here and then the sacks and the thing was over here. There was quite a little ways in between. It had a belt that ran. And you see, on the Prairie there, people helped one and other go with their hay racks. And they shocked the grain, and then pick it up from the field, and bring it in in the hay racks.

We used to go to picnics on Deception Pass as we got older, as time went along. Fourth of July and all-huckleberry pie, fried chicken, we lived her up. *Ada Custer* climbed that thing, mountain or whatever you call it, and she died shortly afterwards. Of course, she died I think from cancer as I understand it. *Ada Custer*.

T: She climbed a mountain by Deception Pass?

G: Yes. I don't think you call it a mountain, it was a hill or something.

T: And then she died of cancer?

G: I think that was right.

170-240

T: So you remember the flu epidemic of 1917? The influenza epidemic?

G: I don't know. I know that I never took shots. My children did when they were small and the doctor said never give them any shots period, anymore. Everybody around in here takes shots. Me? No. Wouldn't give me a shot. You can't give me a shot. I'm the only one that never had the shot. They all had the flu. It was terrible.

[Gladys talks about recent flu problems at the nursing home.]

T: *Carl's* wife, *Iva Sherman Jenne*, was telling me about the flu epidemic in 1917, her sister *Doris* died from it, and she said quite a few people got sick and died in the area from this flu epidemic.

G: I imagine they had no way of care or anything.

I don't know *Iva's* age, she's younger than *Carl*. I never even knew they went together. I was married September 1, they were married September 2.

T: Same year?

- G: Yes. Same year, same month. I was married September 1, they were married September 2.
- T: And where did you get married at?
- G: In my home, this home. In front of the fireplace. And the lady when I was with my mother when I was born, it must have been *Mrs. LeSourd*.
- T: The elder *Mrs. LeSourd*.
- G: Yes. Because she was with me when I was born, when I was married, and when my children were baptized.
- T: Did your father give you away?
- G: No. It wasn't that way. This little niece from California was the ring bearer, she was three years old. And she and her sister came up to see me.
- T: Who made your dress?
- G: There's my marriage picture.³ You should have seen my wedding journal.
- T: That is just beautiful.
- G: It was what I called a wine color. Yes, it was pretty. And my wedding journal, I cut out pieces of that [dress] and a nightgown I made and it had embroidery in front and my clothes that I went away with. And I had a picture of my coat that had fur on it and my hat. My daughter had that [photo]framed. She brought it over here about three years ago and I didn't want her to do that, I wanted her to keep it. No, she wants me to keep that. So I'm going to. She's the only one I have. Everybody's gotten their stuff now, except her. I mean, she's got a lot, but she's got lots to take in.
- T: Do you have grandkids?
- G: No, she has no children.
- T: And then what about your son?

³ A photo of Gladys' wedding picture on the front porch of the Ed and Agnes Jenne home, may be seen in Appendix.

G: [Gladys shows Theresa a photograph.] That's his picture. They've been together three times and I don't know if they'll ever get together again. *Donald* was dead at this time. You see, they're all scattered, like all families. They live in Montana and Nebraska and all around. That's their children and their spouses and their grandchildren, eighteen of them. And they're all there.

T: That's amazing.

G: Yes. Pretty nice.

241-315

T: So when did *Eldon* pass away?

G: Three years ago in February of last year. I didn't even know he was sick, he had never been sick. But you know, you've got to watch it when you go to doctors but I guess he needed attention. And then they put him in the hospital. All kinds of doctors you know, do this and do that. He was operated on and they made a mistake which didn't work. And one week, two weeks later they cut him open again and he had no chance whatsoever. I didn't even know he was sick but he did call me. We were very close, *Eldon* and I, because we were near the same age. And I know he called me from the hospital. His voice was weak. The first thing, wanted to know how I was. I told him I was fine. But I thought he sounded different and the next thing I knew, I got a call from the daughter saying he was dead. I didn't even know he'd been in the hospital. People go to the hospital and you don't know what's going to happen. You never get me in a hospital anymore. They're not cutting me open or nothing. At this stage of the game, I can take care of it.

T: Good way to be.

G: You're doggone right. I've lived a good old life, had a lot of fun. Everybody has happiness, sadness. Who escapes? But you live your merry way, be glad you have the associations you have and forget all this old stuff! I don't want anybody shedding any tears when I'm gone. Why shed tears? Think of the nice times you had together. Now my daughter left today, a lot of people have company and after they leave, "Oh I'm so tired, I'm just so tired." And I say, "You ought to be ashamed of yourself talking like that." And they should be! Look how far they come to see you. My daughter comes more than three thousand miles across the water, plus all this other stuff. But she's got to check out mama. We write letters every week. We keep the phone going, write letters.

T: She sounds like a great lady.

G: Oh she is! They all love her here.

[Gladys talks about another woman who lives in the same home she is in. Gladys has me tour her room. We talk about children. We talk about weaving and looms.]

316-429

[Gladys talks about WSU and her efforts to track down information there on the old clothing department.]

End of Side A: 97. 24. 3

Side B: 97. 24. 3

000-058

[Gladys talks about WSU and her efforts to track down information there on the old clothing department.]

059-107

G: When I went to school we had a practice cottage. In order to graduate, if you were a major, we had to live in that practice cottage for a month. Every week we had a different duty. One week we were a buyer, then you planned all the meals, then you took care of the bookwork, and other things. Four weeks.

T: In this cottage?

G: Yes. Then we had a meeting afterwards, and "What do you think of it?" Of course, I was born and raised on a farm, we didn't have to go out and buy stuff and then make our meals. I told them I didn't think it was right. I said, "I never bought jam, I made my own jam!" So you see, there's your difference.

T: This was for a major in what? Home economics?

G: Yes. Food and clothing.

T: What did you get your degree in?

G: Food and clothing. 1924. So you see, things have changed. But weaving hasn't changed. I dyed my own stuff, I made my own pattern and it was beautiful. Made a lot of things. I had a piece, a runner, on a table, somebody has it.

T: Was the loom you worked on made out of wood or was it made out of metal?

G: Wood. Of course, it's been a long time ago but I often wonder what became of that thing. Then when I heard from you it brought it back to my memory and I wanted to know where that thing was.

[Gladys talks about Western Washington University in Bellingham.]

G: My oldest sister, *Edna*, went to Bellingham.

T: Bellingham State Normal School.

G: I guess so.

108-133

[We talk about the dance program at WSU.]

134-174

T: Well, your dad would be proud of you. I am sure. He gave all of his kids a good start it sounds like. And your mother. Both of them.

G: I should say. Now, I'll tell you one more thing more. I told you about *Smith* was *Schmidt*. My mother's father was *Jacob Schmidt*.

T: That was your mother *Agnes*?

G: *Agnes Cora Jenne*. My father name was *Jacob Schmidt*. *S-C-H-M-I-D-T*. And he was born in Baden-Baden, Germany, also. Her mother was *Margaret Gilfoil*. *F-O-I-L*. Irish. In Cork.

Edward Jenne. It was *Edward Yenne*. *Y-E-N-N-E-Y*. Lots of Yenney's. My father's confirmation is *Eduard Yenne*.

T: And it's E-D-U....?

- G: A-R-D. Not Edward. *Eduard*. That's German. His father was *John Martin Yenney*. His mother was *Mary Magdalena Consinger*. C-O-N-S-I-N-G-E-R. I wrote these things down because people ask me things.
- T: He might have known my great-grandfather. He came from Baden-Baden.
- G: I've been to Baden-Baden. Beautiful. You read about me you'll see where all I've been. I know, I don't have to look, my father was November 20, 1857. My mother was born December 12, 1869. They were married April 5, 1888.
- T: In Coupeville?
- G: Yes. At the *Gould* farm. *Ada* and *Pete Custer* stood up with them, were at their marriage.

175-285

- T: Was *Pete Custer* a farmer? Did he farm?
- G: He lived in Oak Harbor. I don't know what he did.
- T: They were out kind of by Hastie Lake?
- G: Oh yeah Hastie Lake-we used to skate there once and a while. They had hot dogs and things in there. You know, didn't last very long. And as I said, *Pete*, my father hired him, and that's how come *Ada* came when my father's wife died, kept house, and she wanted my mother to come and help her and then she got married. That's the way the ball falls.

[We talk about genealogy research and the Mormon churches role in that. Theresa tells Gladys about Carl Jenne's daughter Barbara Beetham who has done the Jenne family genealogy.]

- T: I'll send you some copies so you can proof them and see what's up.
- G: I'd like to see the one made up on ours.

[Theresa gives Gladys photocopies of the 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920 US Census that has her family listed on it.]

- T: Here is the 1910 census and you have arrived. *Edward*, *Agnes*, *Frank*, *Edna*, *Manetta*, and *Gladys*. You're eight years old.

G: Good, I got in there.

T: Do you remember anybody named *T. F. Gallagher*?

G: No.

T: *Stackpole*, the *Hancocks*...

G: *Stackpole* was somebody.

T: Was he like a hired...?

G: Yes. Lived up on the hill.

[Gladys briefly talks about others mentioned in the census.]

G: The *Deans* lived across from what used to be the old Congregational church. My brother and my oldest sister went to, what do you call those things, those houses they went to in those early days? It was a school up that hill.

T: Puget Sound Academy?

G: Yes. That's where my oldest brother and sister went.

T: And then by the time you started school it was probably gone?

G: I went down below where they had the old grade school and then they built on a new wing.

286-306

T: Do you remember the names of these teachers here [in the photo] when you were picking the rhodys?

G: No, I don't think so.

[We look at Gladys' photo album again.]

That's *Manetta*, *Grace Manetta*, and my mother. That's taken in our front yard in front of the rosebed. Here was the sidewalk, we had a great big rosebed here and here. And these were the teachers.

T: And that's you and your brother...

G: Yes. *Frank*.

T: Now who are these two?

G: Me and *Manetta*.

T: And who are these two?

G: *Frank* and I.

T: And here you're picking gooseberries.

G: Yes.

T: Is that up at the *Sherman* place?

G: Yes. And this is on our trip to California.

T: Your dad had his driving coat on it looks like.

G: Yes.

307-393

T: Would you mind if I made copies of these photos?

G: How would I get it back?

T: I will mail it to you registered express delivery.

G: Isn't worth it is it?

T: Oh yes it is.

[Theresa explains how Ebey's Landing NHR copies photos.]

T: Did you ever hear anything about your *Grandmother Jenne*? Because she probably wasn't around when you were born was she?

G: *Grandma Jenne*? Oh no. Now you see that mirror up there?⁴ My mother had a set. *Aunt Jenne* in Bellingham had a set. And the one in Bellingham gave my mother her sets. And this set was my mothers. Had their pictures in it. See the size of their pictures? Anyway, when I was at my sister's in Coupeville once, after she dismantled my mother's house. My mother was gone, she had the [portraits] made into mirrors. And when I went to see her she asked me if I didn't want one. And I said sure! So I brought it back to Pullman and took it down like that and that great big picture, you can see the size of it, had it in the glass place down there that's still in operation and people went by the street and wanted to know who that was. [In the portrait.] Anyway, *Carl Jenne*.. *Manetta* gave him one and I think then she gave his son one. Or they bought one or something, I don't know. I think *Carl*, unless they-they wouldn't throw them away I know, I think he must have a complete set. Somebody's got them. Wasn't that a good idea, to put a mirror in there? And I gave the picture that I had in there to *Carl*.

T: What picture was in there?

G: My mother's father and mother.

T: You gave it to *Carl*?

G: *Carl* or *Carl's* son. They're both connected with it.

[We discuss Carl and Iva Jenne's health.]

394-430

T: It's nice that your daughter comes over once a year. I think that's great.

G: She's done this for a long time, ever since I've been in here especially. Even when I was home. I lived in the Gormson Apartments in Pullman, and I lived in the Statesman [Moscow] where they murdered that woman lately, Dorothy Martin.

[Theresa stops tape here. As it resumes we are discussing Gladys' fond memories of when her dad would walk to town to pay the grocery bill.]

G: They got bananas and I don't know how much stuff. And he liked Hershey bars. Me too, yeah!

T: Your dad?

⁴ A photo of this mirror may be seen in Appendix following tape 97. 24. 2. See footnote number 16.

- G:** Yes. Bananas, Hershey bars. So it was quite a walk from the *Gould [farm]*, down to the end of that lane where the gate is. I guess maybe the gate isn't there anymore. Well, as you come in the barn, it's on the left side, the house was a little bit further. And I always went down there to open the gate for him. Because I always got candy or a banana.
- T:** Where was the store at? In Prairie Center? Where he would pay the bill?
- G:** Yes... no. It was probably down in town. There was no Prairie Center.
- T:** That's right. I don't think there was a store there then. So he'd come back with bananas and a Hershey bar?
- G:** Yes. Of course we had a horse and buggy. We had a horse named Bird. Beautiful hide on it and colored. We offered that during the war. But it was a pony and buggy horse. We traveled in a buggy.

End of Side B: Tape 97. 24. 3

@ Theresa L. Trebon, July 1997

Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve Oral History Project

Transcription

Tape 97. 24. 4

Interviewee: Gladys Jenne Ingham

Subject: Jenne family history, local history

Number of Tapes: 4

Tapes: 97. 24. 1, 2, 3, 4

Date of Interview: 5-14-97

Interview No. 1

Location: Retirement Home in Moscow, Idaho

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Phone:

Interview Conducted and Transcribed by:

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Tape transcribed on: Panasonic Transcribing Machine RR-830

Appendix Materials:

[Ας της ταπε σταρτσ, Γλαδψς ις ρελατινγ ηω σης πλαψεδ ον α Συνδαψ ονε τιμ
ε ωην σης ωασν τ συπποσεδ το, ανδ γοτ ηυρτ ιν αν αχχιδεντ.]

97. 24. 4: Side A

000-0

G: ... the horse trough. And he had a little spool or something set up on it. He was over here, and the spool was here and I was here. And he swung along with his club or whatever he had and he hit me up here. Bled like the devil, and my clothes were all full of blood, went to the house. They had to go get the horse out of the field, our buggy horse, and hitch her up to the wagon and go to the doctors and I had stitches taken in here. And when I went to school Monday, oh boy, I was proud. I had a big patch here and everybody had heard about it and they were out to the gate to meet me. I had no business being in the barn lot at that time. We

weren't in the barn lot, we were in the horse trough place. But, boy did I ever get attention.

T: Did your dad get mad at you for playing on Sunday?

G: Oh no, they didn't get mad. They were glad things turned out the way they did. Then, at our house, nice porch in the front of course, in the back we had these things where you put your food. What do you call them? It had shelves and screens, two doors, and screens.

T: Like a pie safe?

G: Yes, same thing. And we had a rocking chair there on the side. It was here and the rocking chair was here and they'd sit on the back porch sometimes. Well *Eldon* decided, he had a real pretty silk suit on-called it silk, I don't know if it was or not, and it was brand new. And he was sitting there, looking what was in there and he opens the door and he sits in the chair and the whole thing comes over. Milk, berries, you name it. All over his suit. And my mother took it in the washroom and doused it. And you'd never know anything happened to it. But his children have heard about it. I guess *Eldon* used to get such a kick telling about it. A lot of funny things happened you know.

T: Oh yes. So on Sunday, you'd go to church in the morning?

G: All day church.

T: And then you'd come home?

G: Yes. Have dinner. People'd come for dinner and then we'd go back to church in the evening. And **Epworth League**... they had Epworth League. And some more stuff to eat and stuff from the church. And then in the week time you'd meet at a house maybe and read the bible and stuff. Oh we were full of the bible! But I don't know too much about it.

T: What kind of stuff would Epworth League do?

G: Well, it was like Sunday school only more advanced.

T: Like teenagers, older kids?

G: Yes. Oh we had big times, yes.

- T: When your dad, after he brought the harvest in, did you ever have a harvest party or anything like that?
- G: No. We'd have parties at Deception Pass, take the hay rack and have Fourth of July and things like that.
- T: And where would you go swimming when you went swimming?
- G: Penn's Cove in that little pool, what the name of that place? It's still there.
- T: Kennedy's Lagoon?
- G: No, no, no, no. That nice house up there in the woods. Captain Whidbey. We'd stay. Dorothy and I stayed all night there several times. And then we had a nice breakfast. Honey and everything. Have you ever eaten there? I guess it's still open. I told him I was from Coupeville. I wrote to him and send him things. I guess he's gone, I can't even remember his name.
- T: There's somebody else that owns it now. They've only had it a couple of years. So you'd come over here to go swimming, over in this area?
[Theresa points to the small lagoon that is just south of Captain Whidbey.]
- G: Oh when we'd come home from school in December, *Ellen* and I went in at Ebey's Landing.
- T: In December?
- G: Yes.
- T: You're kidding me?
- G: Well we were ambitious, sure. We didn't stay long at course.

051-081

- T: Besides to sing, did you ever go out to **Fort Casey** for anything else?
- G: Oh sure. When they had their parades in the field, sure.
- T: You'd go out and watch them.
- G: Yes.

T: Did you ever go out there and watch them fire the guns?

G: No. They came in and played tennis with us. We had a tennis court. My beau he came in, and his friends. Anybody else that wanted to come in. And... [laughs] something else about the barn lot, there was a fence around it. And one night I went out to make sure that *Will* had locked the garages. And here at the granary, of course the fencepost was there, and something was there and I thought hey, hey, I said that. And it was a soldier from the fort standing there. He didn't want me to know it was him and he jumped the fence and went back to the base.

One time in our house, we were sitting all downstairs, somebody came in... they got a ladder and came in the back way at our stairway and went through all the upstairs. Good thing my father wasn't in bed, I don't know what he would've done. My sister had gone in the bedroom and that fellow was in the closet. She was looking out the window, rubbing her throat, I guess she had a cold, and she came to tell my mother that there was a ladder out there. And my mother saw the ladder and saw the fellow running.

T: And he was from the fort?

G: Yes.

T: Did he steal anything?

G: No. I guess he was going to see what was around, he was going to steal something. Yes! He went into my sister's bedroom, the other one, *Edna's*, and he stole the watch. I was laying in bed asleep and I never even heard him. And he was in the closet when my sister went to bed. My mother rattled, you know they had the big washbowls and pitchers, somebody from Colfax wanted them so I let them have them, they were antiques, and she rattled that and she said, "You needn't think we don't know you've been around here." You could hear him cracking around through the woods. A lot of funny things happened you know.

082-157

G: Then my father, I told you, had sheep. And a neighbor up... I don't know who it was, wasn't *LeSourds*, they didn't had sheep. This party had dogs and they had a pet sheep. And the dog kept care of the pet sheep. It brought the sheep down and killed some of my father's sheep. And he said it wasn't his dog that did that. My father went back and his teeth were all full of hair.

T: So did the guy pay your dad?

G: I don't think so. They were dead so what could you do?

T: What did your folks do for entertainment?

G: For entertainment? Well, they didn't have much time, we were working. My mother stayed up till 12:00 at night doing our sewing. When we were asleep that's when she did family work. Making underclothes. And she worked with the church making quilts and things besides which she had at home in her spare time. Oh they worked. There was never idle moments.

T: Did they like to read?

G: Oh sure. My father was a great reader. Reading is the best thing you can do.

[Theresa explains the oral history numbering system to Gladys.]

End of Side A, Tape 97. 24. 4A

Interview 1 with Gladys Jenne Ingham

@ Theresa L. Trebon, July 1997