

## ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

## Tape Interview Data Sheet

General Topic of Interview Life in the Rangely area.

Date 7/22/84 Place Rangely Colo.

Length (Time) 50 min. Speed \_\_\_\_\_ Side(s) \_\_\_\_\_

## Narrator:

Name Ila Alma Bowman Powell

Address Box 66 Rangely, Colo. 81648

Telephone

Birthplace March 18, 1911 Grand Jct., Colo.

Occupation(s) Ranchers wife and partner.

## Interviewer(s)

Name(s) Julie Jones-Eddy

Subjects covered, in approximate order (please spell out names of persons and places).

1. Parents came to N.W. Colo. in a covered wagon to Douglas Creek near Rangely to Homestead June 29, 1908 (Fred Nichols birthday).
- 31 2. First childhood memory.
  - Wolves howling at night.
  - Rode her black mare when she was 8 yrs. old to look at the country.
  - Indians came into the country to hunt.
  - Dug red clay for war paint.
- 43 3. Went to school at Dragon, Ut. with Indians. Captain Jinx was the 1st dead person she saw. He wanted to be buried like a white man.
  - she remembers the odor in Indian tents.
- 59 4. Indian, "Little Dick" was very proud of his daughter, Ella. She graduated from Western State.
  - Ila's mother took pictures of Little Dick to send to his daughter. She wrote letters to daughter for Little Dick.
- 71 5. Indians hunted all along the White River.
- 74 6. Chores at home. 1925.
  - Gathered bum lambs to bring home. Raised 157 bum lambs one spring.

- Milked cows.
- Shoveled out ditches.
- Took care of garden.
- Worked inside and outside, boys and girls.
- Planted potatoes with her dad while boys had to wash dishes in the kitchen.
- She preferred outside work.
- Washed on the washboard. Heated water in copper boiler. Filled rinse tubs. Hung on clothesline. Ironed.
- Description of irons. Used five at a time. Ironed pillowcases and aprons.

- 101 7. Clothing.  
- Girls wore dresses even while working outside.
- 134 8. Clothes sometimes made out of flour sacks.
- 137 9. Baked bread.  
- Didn't know about bakery until she was 14 yrs. old.
- 142 10. Kids nowadays don't know how to "make do".  
- She wants to teach her grandchildren how to do things for themselves.  
- Taught grandchildren to dig postholes - no posthole digger.
- 165 11. School.  
- Moved to Dragon, Ut. for school up to the 4th grade.  
- Boarded out in Rangely until 7th grade.  
- Went to Fruita to high school.  
- Quit in junior year to get married.  
- Reasons for quitting school.
- 177 12. Husband's background.
- 185 13. Marriage, 1927.
- 187 14. Fun as a child.  
- Fished with dad.  
- Rode Horses  
- Helped with cows.  
- Visited with neighbors
- 197 15. Usual marriage age. 16,17,18.
- 203 16. First married years.  
- Stayed on her ranch 1st year.  
- Moved to Tacoma, Wash. (First trip away from area.)  
- Stayed in Wash. until depression hit (3 years).  
- Homesteaded on Douglas Creek. 18' x 20' cabin.  
- Stayed until son was in 8th grade. Moved to Vernal, Ut. for high school.  
- Lived on ranch in the summer.
- 233 17. Description of homestead.  
- Dug their own coal mine.  
- Got school built.
- 245 18. Typical day in the summer on the homestead.  
- Husband worked away.  
- Milked cows. Made left over milk into cottage cheese. Dumped sour milk (yogart) in the ditch.  
- Garden. Helped mother-in-law.

- Didn't need exercise in those days - shoveled out ditches.
- After children came, chores had to be done before they woke up in the morning.

- 290 19. Feelings about Northwestern Colo. compared to Wash.  
 - Too many people, not friendly.  
 - Friends in N.W. Colo. last a lifetime. (Jay Rector)
- 317 20. Home remedies.  
 - No doctors.  
 - Doctored illness right away.  
 - Account of ax wound in the head.
- 359 21. Birth of children.  
 - Went to vernal until hospital built in Rangely.
- 368 22. Home remedies.  
 - Mother was part Indian.  
 - Made her own lineament.  
 - Poltice,  
 Side 2 - Use of tree pitch.  
 1 - Camphor, Turpentine, lard.  
 - Mustard oil and Vicks.  
 - Mustard plaster recipe.  
 - 1918 flu - sage brush tea.  
 - Oil of eucalyptus.  
 - Red tree bark - sassafras tea - used for thinning blood in the spring.
- 24 23. Hobbies.  
 - She and her dad used horse tail to make horse hair rope.
- 37 24. Social gatherings.  
 - Dances in Rangely. Rode horseback 35 mi.  
 - As teenager, rode in cars.  
 - At times they were snowed in at the ranch with no telephone for days or weeks.
- 60 25. Puberty.  
 - Mother explained most things.  
 - Compares boy-girl relationships to today.  
 - Learned from animal behavior.
- 73 26. She had 10 children.  
 - Attitude towards pregnancy.  
 - Birth control.  
 - She wanted a big family.  
 - How to raise many children.
- 97 27. Attitude towards working mothers.  
 - Children don't get enough attention.  
 - She took care of children whose mothers worked.
- 107 28. Hopes for daughters lives.  
 - One had artistic talent.  
 - Disapproves of what some have decided to do.

- 128 29. People who have influenced her.  
- Willa Rector.  
- Woman she lived with during high school in Grand Jct. The woman would have provided her college education.
- 147 30. Saddest times.  
- Lost the daughter closest to her at age 32. She is raising one child.
- 157 31. Disappointments.  
- Marriage.  
- Children.  
- No career as a nurse.
- 163 32. Most satisfying times.  
- Fishing with her dad.  
- Life with her parent's family.  
- Ed Lewis.  
- Story of cleaning sage brush and building bon fires.  
- Making jerky (Sam Wear - game warden).  
Charlie Handy (sp?)  
-Discipline in her father's home.
- 228 31. Bears at homestead.  
- Wolves.  
- Not many deer.  
- Found buffalo skeletons.
- 252 32. Things she wished she had done.  
- Wanted to be a nurse.  
- Made mistake in marrying too early.  
- Reasons for marrying on the spur of the moment.  
- Aunt Mattie (woman in Grand Jct.) would have sent her to school.