

Notes: Mentioned in index: Vol III, Told By the Pioneers, information listed as not published in the three vols but collected during interviews.

Copy of Form Used

4. Personal History

Last Name	First
(Person Interviewed)	

1. When did you come to the state or territory of Washington?
2. From what state did you come?
3. Did you come with a group from your home town or did you strike out alone?
4. What was the motive that impelled you to come?

Route. [Incidents along the way]

5. Why did you choose Washington for your new home?
6. Did you ~~choose~~ ~~Washington~~ settle in a city or in the open country?
7. In what county did you settle?
8. Did you homestead or buy land?
9. Did you make any early moves from one county to another?
10. Did you have a trade at which you worked?  
(Different occupations engaged in--dates?)  
Were you instrumental in developing important industries: Shingle mills, orchards, cooperatives etc.
11. To what fraternal, church or service organization do you belong?

In your opinion did any one of these groups play an important part in the early community life? Were there any special social groups or religious sects settled in your part of the country?

12. When were you born? Citizen?

13. Where were you born?

(Country, if foreign, state and county, if U.S.)

14. Nationality.

15. Married or single?

16. How many children and grandchildren? Where are they now?

Children

Grandchildren

residence

17. How many years have you voted in this state?

Do you remember any interesting or amusing incidents concerning any elections, national or local, since you came to the state?

18. Did you have any savings, etc. which you had planned on using but which have been wiped out by bank failures, illness, etc.

#### B. PERSONAL REMINISCENCES (pg. 3)

1. Do you remember the kind of houses most people had when you came to the state? The kind of furniture? Well known buildings and landmarks.

2. What was the general kind of transportation during the early days in your community? (Advent of new projects, opening of bridges, coming of the railroads)

3. Do you remember anything particularly interesting about the clothes worn by the people in your community? Food?

4. Did you or any of your family ever have any exciting or interesting experiences with the Indians. Do you know Chinook?

5. Were there schools available when you first came? Do you remember when the first school was built? Games that children played at school, parties?



6. Do you remember personally any of the territorial governors? (Noteworthy official occasions; official services in state or county.)
7. Do you have first hand information on historical occurrences in the state which probably would not be in the regular histories?
8. Unique experiences; frontier catastrophies--floods storms, fires, wars; meeting with noted frontier characters, Indian and white; meetings and picnics, reunions, exhibitions, chautauquas, theatrical companies or visits from famous people to your part of the country.
9. Do you remember church entertainments, other recreations?

#### TO THE INTERVIEWER

#### C Supplementary to the interview:

- a Description of person; mental and physical characteristics.
- B Present living arrangements, with friends or relatives, city or county, description of home.
- c. Check dates and name places; using libraries, checking story against that of leading pioneer citizens in same community.
- d. Local color; Contrast by brief description present status of country, incidental local color adds much to the facts.
- e Reference and authorities quoted by persons interviewed. (family Bible, local records, etc.)
- f. The interview is the initial step. Follow up is just as essential. Bring a supply of paper and a pencil to be left at the home of the person you are interviewing. Your questions or suggestions will be just a beginning. After you have left, many memories will return which, if paper is handy, will probably be written down.

## 2

## GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The above questions are intended as "pegs" or reminders. After the first facts are learned, it may be that some of the latter questions are not applicable. It will be necessary for the interviewer to choose the questions which will serve best as reminders or "starter." Interviewers will think of additional questions during the course of the interview which will add much to the material already gained.

Interviewed by

Name

County

Date

Note: Many yes and no answers will be omitted. Names, dates, sketches and bits of other information, as written will be transcribed on the following. (Master forms secured through assistance of Yakima Public Library which made application to repository as noted in index of "Told By the Pioneers.")

Following by Alphabetical order

Adams, Williams:

(Few answers on this one)

Settled in Mason county. Catholic church. Born in 1846.

Born in Mason County, Wash.

Nationality: Indian. Lists 10 children, 6 grandchildren.

(Kind of houses) Cliscs or cattails dried and mudded. Food;

Wild carrots and wild potatoes.

Interviewer( Description of person--deceased.)

J.W. Bird

Thurston,

July 1, 1936.



Klickitat county.

Alvord, Charles  
Goldendale

Came to Washington territory Feb. 1, 1880 from Swift co., Minn.  
Came alone. Wanted to see west. Came Union Pacific to San Francisco.  
by steamer to the Dalles. Came because there was lots of talk about  
Washington. Settled in Goldendale in 1889.

I worked on bridge building for O.R.N. from 1880 to 1882, then  
logged until 1889. Ran livery stable 16 years until the cars broke  
up the business.

I remember claim shacks in the county. I lived in logging camps.

Goldendale burned down in 1888.

High water in the Columbia in 1894 washed out track. Carried away  
Grant's station. (interviewed 1936.)

Benton county

Amon, Laura

Prescott, Horse Heaven, Yellowbank, Dayton

I came to the state of Washington --was born here in Columbia county. My parents crossed the plain, my father from Missouri in 1868 and my mother from Iowa in 1864. My mother's father built a sawmill ~~near~~ on the Yellowhawk near Walla Walla and a grist mill at Long Station ~~near~~ what is now Dayton.

I settled at Horse Heaven in 1898 with my parents. My husband homesteaded.

When my mother's people crossed the plains they stopped at the Platte and rested their cattle while the women did the washing. A picnic dinner was served and such luxuries as dried apples and sugar were placed on the table. I have the sugar bowl that grandmother used that day.

When my father's people were coming along the Oregon trail near Le Grande where it was rugged they picked up a shovel with the initials A.B. cut in the handle. My Aunt Sarah was nearly grown then and they jokingly told her to keep it and maybe it would lead her to a husband.

At Walla Walla they met a family named Barnett--Asa Barnett claimed the shovel and later claimed Sarah for his wife. They settled at Prescott, where she now lives on the old homestead.

Mrs. Copley an ordained preacher (Methodist) had a ranch here and when she drove over from Walla Walla she preached here and that little in those days was all the preaching we had but we had Sunday school.

Water was scarce. We hauled it 12 miles from the Columbia and left none out at night or the wild horses would drink it up.

Randups were the big events. Wild Branding was done in the corrals down the river between Wallula and Unatilla. There were no fences. Horses were wild. We celebrated the Fourth at Mattinger's ranch on the river. (Augusta Mastland, interviewer\*April 25, 1936.\*)



Emily Armstrong:

Came to the territory in 1881 from Oregon, Benton Co.

My mother, Ellen Teterow, was born in a prairie schooner in 1845. I came with my parents to The Dalles and lived there until I was married in 1887. My husband and I went to Walla Walla, then to California and then to Burns, Ore.

I came back to Walla Walla when I was left a widow with three children. I drove a team the whole distance. My oldest child was four, my baby, six months.

My husband died while away from home freighting. I never had better friends than the buckaroos who helped me at that time. I was 10 days making the trip and froze my hands. The freighters along the way were wonderful to me.

I went on a ranch and worked for 10 people, myself and my 3, the farmer and his 3 and the hired man. I did all the housework.

My next move was to Yakima county in 1913. I worked in a laundry 14 years. My husband was a bricklayer (10)

I belonged to the Christian church.

I was born July 24, 1864, in Benton county, Ore.

Nationality: Irish and German descent. I was married three times; 1882, 1897, 1911.

Children, Mrs. Lavina Linebaugh, Walla Walla, 4 children. Earl Gregory, Yakima, no children. Leo Gregory, Yakima, 3 children. Oldest daughter died and left three children who live with their grandmother

B. I came in 1881 and the pioneer days were passing when I came back to Walla Walla there were big wheat ranches. Crossing to the Yakima valley in 1913 we found a good sized town but it has grown rapidly.



2.

Emily Armstrong:

When Joe Meeks led an emigrant train across the plains in 1845 he took the wrong trail at one place (please copy) During the time he was finding the right trail the baby, Ellen Tetherow was born. Her parents took up land in Benton co., Ore. Two years later Ellen's brother, Solomon, was staying at the Whitman mission. The day of the massacre he was away in the hills with some Indians hunting stray horses, so escaped.

Ellen Tetherow's daughter, Emily, drove a team from Burns, Oregon, to Walla Walla, Wash. her three fatherless children beside her, the oldest four, the youngest six months. Her hands were partly frozen.

Interviewer note: Getting old and feeble. She and her husband and her three orphaned grandchildren live in their home. Mrs. Armstrong is one of the wonderful pioneer women who helped win the west.

Augusta Eastland, Yakima, April  
8, 1936.

John Armstrong

Came to the territory in 1861 from Multnomah co, Ore.  
Came with his family. People were moving around a great deal.  
Father moved from Oregon to Clarke co, then to Walla Walla and  
back to Clark (copy) where he stayed 20 years.

I was a bricklayer and lived in several towns. I helped  
build up Ellensburg after the fire. I worked in Walla Walla and  
Medical Lake, Cheney, Yakima.

My father homesteaded in Clark co. I bought town lots here  
and there.

I was a bricklayer and helped develop the west as a laborer.  
I belonged to the Christian church. I was born in Multnomah  
co., Ore. in 1857. Nationality: English. No children.  
Had savings that were "wiped out" (18)

The first houses were of logs with homemade furniture.  
We now live on an arterial highway when we came here there  
were no sidewalks. There were no automobiles then.

Transportation was by horseback and stages and railroads-  
in 1884.

My father was in the war against the Yakimas.

Interviewers notes:

Feeble. He and his wife live in their  
own home. Both are in failing health. She has carried heavy  
responsibilities and never faltered. She has an old age pension.

Augusta Eastland

Yakima. April 8, 1936.



Klickitat county

Anderson, John

Pleasant valley. Goldendale

Came to Washington territory in 1882 from Goodhue, Minn. Had a brother at here. Came by train to San Francisco, steamer rest of the way.

Settled in open country in Pleasant valley and lived there 46 years. Not much land was farmed at first.

I worked for George Waldren. He had 700 head of horses. Buyers used to come in here. They gave \$250 or \$200 for good horses. There was bunch grass everywhere. Ben Snipes and Charles Newell were big stockmen.

Remember claim shacks in the country. Lumber wagons. Hauled wheat 25 miles, four or six horse teams. Didn't run to the store two or three times a day for supplies. Went to the Dalles once a year.

Dr. Hartley had the first automobile. Do George Waldren had the first open buggy.

Women had two dresses to wear every day and one for Sunday. Men kept their new overalls to wear to town. Interviewed by Augusta Eastland, April 11, 1936.

Bankerd (or Banherd), Sarah Seward.

I came to the territory in 1872 from Multnomah county, Ore. with my family.

Father had asthma and was seeking a dry climate.

We settled in the open country. There was a tiny settlement at Yakima City, Now Oldtown.

We had squatters' rights or father did. My husband homesteaded. Farmers had 10 acres of grain and a garden in 1873. There were stockfarms and hay and grain ranches. We bought out one of the the first ditches from Cowiche creek.

I was a member of the Woman's Relief Corps and Christian church.

I was born July 26, 1854, Multnomah county, Ore. I was of Scotch-Irish nationality and was married in 1871, 1878 and 1925.

Children, Wilbur Seward, 7 children, Yakima valley; Mrs. Anita Cole, 2 children, Yakima valley; Ora Seward, 7 children, Yakima valley.

I have voted ever since I was given the privilege.

I still have the farm in the Ahtanum. My husband homesteaded in the 60s or 70s. First husband and I homesteaded in the Cowiche in 1871. I sold that farm.

Houses were logs when we arrived. Part of Centennial hall is standing. Forded the streams. Lee Kelly a neighbor was drowned while fording the Naches and his body was never recovered. Deacon Tanner (difficult~~y~~ to interpret writing) was drowned while crossing on his way to church.

Children attended the Woodcock academy in the Ahtanum, the first school of its kind in the valley. It is now a club house. The lumber for this academy and for the



Bankerd(or Banherd( , Sarah -Seward  
 Cong. church which stands near it, was sawed at my  
 husband's mill at Soda Springs.

Nelson's bridge took the place of Nelson's ferry. It was of  
 logs and Nelson and his sons built it. The fine structure at  
 that place today is called "The Nelson Bridge.

Alice Viola (name hard to decipher because of inked paper)  
 had a melodion and we would go to her place and sing.

We rode horseback, danced , had picnics. There was not much  
 going on.

Written on back;

My father crossed the plains at an early date, maybe 1843  
 and took a donation claim three miles from the little village  
 which sprang up in the wilderness and was called Portland.

Since that time his claim has become absorbed in the  
 city .

We had a nice home there but my father had a sthma and was  
 forced to seek a drier climate. In 1871 he came to the  
 Yakima country and located in the Naches v lley. He brought  
 water from the river and irrigated a garden and a little patch  
 of wheat. He returned for the family and we left Oregon in  
 1872 taking our stock, household goods and farm equipment

We took the river route, loading everything even the stock  
 onto the boat. As the Cascades we put everything except  
 the stock on a little train and rode around the rough place  
 in the river and took another boat up the river.

We expected to land at The Dalles but the captain very  
 obligingly made a landing at Rockland so we were on the  
 Washington side. We were over two weeks getting to our dest-  
 ination. Can go over there now in a couple of hours or so.

Bankherd or (Banherd)

The last morning of our journey found us at Satus Hill. Pointing to a gap in the hills my father said: "He must be there tonight. That's the nearest water for the stock." It didn't look far and I thought we would be there very soon. It was four o'clock when we reached the gap and the cattle were frenzied. They ran bawling to the river and my calf got in the current and was swept away, so the next two or three hours, tired and hungry as we were, we spent rescuing that part of the family fortunes.

There was no floor in our little log house. We took the only available material which happened to be some small quaking asp trees, made bed posts of them and a frame, covered it with poles made of the trees, then cut rye grass and put a thick layer over the poles.

We had our bedding in a trunk and that's the way we started out. Cottonwood blocks were our chairs. Father split them and put pegs in for legs. We brought a little stove so we had that much. There was no money and nothing to sell that first year.

When supplies were gone we ground a little corn that we dried and made flour. We ran out of matches and father put some powder in an old flint lock gun, then put in a rag and fired. This set the rag afire and he ran like a madman and grabbed the rag and blew on it to make a blaze which he dropped onto the kindling.

We raised a garden and killed a calf and got along some way. But we were so homesick at first.

My husband and I took up land in the Cowiche, nothing but sagebrush and rattlesnakes. Whenever I go up that valley now I can scarcely believe that it is the same place.

After my husband's death I sold the ranch and later married Mr.



Bankherd (or Banherd)

Seward who had a homestead in the Antanum. I still have it.

Mr. Seward owned a sawmill at Soda Springs and many of the buildings at Yakima City and other places were built from lumber sawed at his mill. A building moved from Yakima City in 1885 still stands on Second street and is called Centennial hall.

The first Fourth of July celebration in North Yakima was held there. The hall was draped in bunting and flags were everywhere. We had music, speaking, singing, then danced all night.

The first academy in the valley or school of that kind was erected in the Antanum, the timber coming from Seward mill.

Everybody rode horseback in those days. There were a few "hacks" but not many could afford them.

Finally the Indians decided to kill all of us (see page 4 of original)

The Perkins murder occurred soon after and the government sent us needle guns and cartridges. I still have the needlegun, will put it in the museum if one is ever built here. We built a fort of sod around the spring up the Antanum but it was so hot and uncomfortable we deserted it for our cabin.

We have gone through plenty of hardships and dangers but it has all been worth while to see the transformation from sagebrush rattlesnakes and the wonderful valley of today.

...Finally the Indians decided to kill all of us. Seven warriors in full regalia swept down upon our little cabin one day. We had no guns but foolishly thought we could club them with some wood we had piled up by the stove. They dropped from their ponies, sat in a circle for a solid hour, never speaking or moving while we stood in our door expecting an attack.

Bankherd or Banherd

Finally one of them lit his pipe, took a puff and passed it on. Twice the pipe went around the circle with a whoop they mounted their ponies and were gone. That night we slept in the wheat field (see page 4)

Supplementary to interview:

A remarkable old lady 82 t is week. Not many of her kind left today. She recalls to this day how clean she kept that little dirt floored cabin in the Cowiche valley 65 years ago. She lives alone in Yakima under her own roof and has her farm besides.

Augusta Eastland

Yakima county

July 15, 1936.



Beck, Corinne

I came to the territory of Washington in 1877 from Linn county, Ore. with my family. My father thought there was a better opportunity in Washington. We went by train to San Francisco, to The Dalles by boat and traveled by stage the rest of the way.

We settled in the open country of Yakima county, buying land in the Antanum.

I was a member of the Christian church and Royal Neighbors.

My birthplace was Cedar Co., Iowa, where I was born August 4, 1864. My nationality is English-Scotch-Irish.

I was married December 10, 1879. There were two children born and I have five grandchildren, all living in the Yakima valley. I have voted since women could vote.

Lumber houses were common dwelling places when we arrived in the Yakima valley.

Landmarks: The Mattoon cabin is standing, also the old mission and the old fort at Simcoe. I remember when the railroad came. Stages were used for travel before that.

Early incidents: Like everybody during the 70s we went into the fort. We lived in a sod fort two weeks. Our favorite recreations were Fourth of July celebrations, big picnics and dances.

Interviewer: Augusta Estaland, Yakima, April 6, 1936.

~~Comments:~~

Comments: Lives with husband and married daughter or else they live with her and her husband, the latter most likely.

Beck, Orlando

I came to the territory of Washington in 1860 from Sullivan county, Mo. I came with my father, mother and three brothers. We crossed the plains. Dr. Goodwin was our leader.

It was just after the Civil War and lives and property were unsafe because of bushwackers. My father sacrificed 80 acres of beautiful land for a team and wagon and enough food to get out here.

We settled at Walla Walla. There was a flour mill there. Farmers were raising wheat. My uncle had 350 acres of it and went broke. We lived at Walla Walla four years.

My father homesteaded. When I was 21 I took up 160 acres and sold it to the Northern Pacific. Came to the Yakima valley in 1865. There were very few white settlers--just some trappers and squaw men.

We got our start taking 50 head of cattle on shares, we putting up the hay.

Father dug the first irrigation ditch from the Yakima river, just for his own use. Seeing it the Schannos started one and from that day the valley was on the upgrade. Father surveyed the road to the Dalles.

I was a freighter and hauled in the first load of nursery stock. We developed one of the first orchards. I was deputy sheriff two years, marshal at Oldtown 8 years, justice of the peace four years. I put out the Yakima Security orchards, took care of them five years for Poolard Hankin. I was fruit inspector nine years.

I belong to the Christian church, the one Isaac Flint started; and the Modern Woodmen.

I was born November 1, 1857 at Sullivan co. Mo. My nationality is German and I was married November 30, 1880.



2- Orlando Beck.

I have two children and seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Edna Peck Pierce, Yakima (4 children)

Mrs. Eva Snodgrass, Yakima (3 children)

Living conditions: We built a cabin from cottonwoods along the river. I have a chair brought across the plains, with seat of strips of buckskin.

There wasn't a bridge in the country when we came to Yakima. We rode horses and forded streams.

We lived like white people--if we had more food than we needed we gave it to someone who could use it. We grew our vegetables and made butter and cheese. I remember I used to grind corn and wheat in a big coffee mill for many a mill.

I knew Gov. Ferry.

I remember the Indian troubles. Patrolling the Columbia by U.S. troops was all that saved the whole of us when the Perkins' were murdered.

Recreation: Fourth of July celebrations, picnics, dances in the winter, spelling matches.

Comments: Bright old man. Active. Is justice of peace.

lives at ~~Udada~~ Oldtown with wife in comfortable home. Interviewed by Augusta Eastland, Yakima, April 4, 1936.

Benton

Bennett, Willis

Prosser, Beverly, Lookout Lodge

Here and there in the Rattlesnake mountains and the region toward the White Bluffs of the Columbia are traces of early occupation.

Some of these settlers were driven out by Indians; some built their hopes on the promise of a railroad. One by one the homesteads were abandoned. Coyotes and rattlesnakes took possession again.

Cabins and corrals yielded to the force of the winds which roared down the valley of the Columbia.

High up the side of the mountain a spring bubbles from the rocks, its waters crystal and cool. This spring marked the site of an abandoned tree-claim. Here one day there came a man in search of a homesite. The prairies had been his home for a time. Before that he had journeyed by ox team from New York. Something always sent him on toward the West. It was his ambition to raise fine stock and he had never found the perfect setting. Sometimes the winters were too severe. Water was scarce in other places and tasted of alkali. Again, there was no room for grazing.

Standing there by the spring he turned these things over in his mind. He had a wife and daughter and four sturdy sons; time now to quit wandering and settle down for good. Here were ideal conditions for a splendid stock-ranch, water, protection for his herds and flocks and grazing lands.

Above the spring on a spot overlooking seven counties we built Lookout Lodge. We served our time as pioneers; this time we would put up a good house. True it lacked many of the conveniences which the average housewife finds necessary. The children had their ponies and calves and had the privilege of selling them. They bought their own saddles and bridles. Little by little they learned the stock business. They rode their ponies to school



which was built not far from the ranch.

..sometimes when the Columbuia river is high we catch a glimpse of it far to the north, sweeping through the gap which is just south of Beverly."

"Willis Bennett, born in Minnesota, came to territory in 1889 ..encouraged to come by advertising literature..it was Yakima county then, now Benton. Bought a relinquishment in the Rattlesnake hills. Born Sept 14, 1851, New York --Augusta Eastland, April 22, 1936.