The following transcript is a scan of the original and has not been edited. For additional assistance, please contact Archives and Special Collections.
Tape 11-2, Side A, Bill Hartley interviewing Harvey Hackman on the Nine Mile area.

BH  This is Bill Hartley, Missoula, Montana. The date April 23, 1974. Today I have a date to meet with a man by the name of Harvey Hackman, who, back many years ago, resided in the Nine Mile area. When I get with him, he will put something of his memories of the Nine Mile on tape. See you later.

HH  This is Harvey Hackman speaking. The Nine Mile house got its name through the Nine Mile and French settlement of Frenchtown. Six Mile is six miles from Frenchtown. The Nine Mile House was run by a man by the name of George Fromm(?). His father had run this house years before. At his death his son George continued to run the house.

   It consisted of a bar, store and a post office which was called the Nine Mile Post Office. The Nine Mile House was a two story house and out back it had a double decker toilet which was featured in "Ripley's Believe It or Not" column. Old Highway 10 ran in front of the store. Across Highway 10 as you go up Nine Mile, the first house on the right was the Stanley Hillacut(?) house. whose father was the second post master at Martina, a gold rush town.

   After crossing the Nine Mile bridge from Highway 10, a man by the name of Virgil Armstrong, I believe, lived there. The next place was the Gilbert place were Joe Arpan(?) lived, then on the present place above the Arpan place, a man lived by the name of Griffin who at one time was a miner in Butte. The next place was the Sylvester Harrington place, he and his two sons and wife still live on that place. Across the road from the Harrington place, a veteran of World War I lived; name unknown. The Clay Reece(?) ranch was next. They came from Georgia and settled there, also on the upper Reese place, the Barber brothers lived. On the left hand side of the road, just at the Reese place across from the Reese house, are three graves. One was a 17 year old boy who died of spotted fever. The other two graves were of small children that....that place of the graves is on a mound. There was an old overshot stacker on the top of this mound the last time I'd seen it. The next place up the creek was the Fred Gustafson place. Fred Gustafson came to America from Norway in the 1890's and worked at Florence in the Bitterroot Valley at a sawmill as a woods worker. He later lived Missoula before going to Nine Mile.

   I rented and farmed the Gustafson place in the fall of 1940 through May of 1952. Truman Eubank(?) lived on up the creek. This place was later bought by Raymond and Margaret Felton. This place is broken up into tracts now. Joining the Eubank ranch was a Billinghamurst place. There were two houses on this place. Joe Groves lived in one. Joe Groves' father, Napoleon Groves, had a bar and dance hall at Huson in the 1900s. In the other house Mr.
and Mrs. Roy Sunders (?) lived and later Mrs. Sunders was the Post Mistress at Alberton. Later on Mr. Cheatham bought the place and then later Mr. Ed Randburg bought it from Mr. Cheatham.

Close to the place was the Headquarters camp of the ACM Company. It had a post office called Stark, also a couple of things (?) and a store. The latter was run by a Mr. Groves. Around the headquarters camp when it closed, there were a number of old Model T cars and other broken down cars. The headquarters camp took in part of Butler Creek. Next place was the Hyatt place. Later Mr. Otto (?) Moore lived there and after that a fellow whom we called the "Mad Russian". Ted Nelson lived across the creek on what I believe was the old Harter place. Then a man by the name of Pop Wells lived on the next place. That place was homesteaded by Stanley McGillicut's wife's folks. Her name was Ayers (?). The Proebstel place was homesteaded by Mrs. Jesse Dickson. Mrs. Dickson later married Fred Proebstel. Fred's son, Charlie, lived on the place until his death two years ago. William (?) and Mary Underwood, mother and sister, bought 80 acres from the ACM Company just above the Proebstel place. This was at the mouth of Kennedy Creek where the Nine Mile Community Church stands now.

On Kennedy Creek, Napoleon Grove had a patented mining claim which later belonged to Mr. and Mrs. Sholer (?) and then Mr. Arthur Fetcher, when he passed away, owned it. W. E. Armstrong had 15 acres of patented mining claim which is now owned by my son, Warren Hackman, in Missoula. Mr. Woodhost (?) ....

BH Woodhouse (?)

HH Woodhouse had a patented mining claim. Johnny Hackman and E. T. Clark had a patented claim of 40 acres which the Underwoods got later. A fellow by the name of Monroe had a mine up Kennedy Creek and Mr. Larason had 80 acres southeast of Stark. Mrs. Arpan had a store and post office and gas station at New Stark about three and one half miles above old Stark where the headquarters of the ACM Lumber Company was. I, Harvey Hackman, had a freight team route nine miles from Missoula during the second world war. I hauled groceries from the Haines's Wholesale Groceries to the Stark store for Mrs. Arpan.

BH Did you find your place? Okay.

HH Clarence and _________ White lived just above the store. Clarence was the postman from Huson on up to Nine Mile Creek until he retired two years ago. He took the route over from Clarence Peterson. The Whites lived on the old Parent place. They bought it from Paul Pinnell in 1940 or so. Jack Fay lived just above the Whites. In McCormick's house Mr. John Hogan lived. Across the road from the Hogans lived a family by the name of Barnsley (?) and there were several mining claims up McCormick Creek. Mr. John Dawes (> ) had a farm which he purchased
the land from the ACM Company and lived there for years. He
died about three months ago or four. John Kennedy lived on land
in Josephine Creek which then crossed from the Dove (?) farm.

The next place on Nine Mile Creek above Dove was owned,
but unknown to me who owned it. Mrs. Sudemeyer lived in the next
place. They were old timers up there. Mrs. Sudemeyer....

BH Just a minute.

HH Mrs. Sudemeyer's daughter married Ray Snell of Corvallis.
Still lives up at Corvallis. Just above the Sudemeyer place on
the left across the creed was the Monture place. That place Glen
Davis lived on. Across...the Arpan family moved on too. On the
right is Merriam Creek, named after...for Joe Merriam of
Frenchtown, who probably lived up there a short time. Joe
Merriam was sheriff of Missoula County. The Henry Brothers had a
hydraulic system to wash gold on their claim. The next place
belonged to Fred Cistet (?) which was cleared about 1910 or so by
a man by the name of Mannheimer who had a department store in
Seattle. When I went up there in 1937, a fellow by the name of
E. E. Morrison lived there who was the brother-in-law of Mr.
Mannheimer. The cost of clearing the land according to Mr.
Morrison was over $100 an acre. It is understood that they got
the blasting powder by the carload. The early map I saw, showed
a fellow by the name of Ira Fee...Free...

Bh Free!

HH ..living there. There was a sawmill on the place
about...a sawmill on the place. About 60 years ago there was a
prospector lived there who came up every summer from Arizona to
prospect on Beecher Creek. He figured the mother lode somewhere
on the Creek. He came up every year for 20 years or more and
prospected in the wintertime in Arizona.---------I think the
first gold was found at Old Town on St. Louis Creek. Demsher ...
Dempster was dredging the Nine Mile in the 40's. Later
Benson (?) went in with him. There were several living in cabins
here and there. There were two types of gold found on Nine Mile.
One type was lighter in color and worn; the other was darker and rougher.

Going on in the Nine Mile to the Remount, William
Longpre lived on the left on Stoney Creek where there was a
sawmill in the 90's. I have two pictures of this sawmill and the
names of the crew. Next was the Remount which was the old Pete
Longpre farm. Across from that place: unknown to me who lived
there. Absel on Longpre place. Absel was the father of William
and Dan Longpre. Then, down to thee Nine Mile school; Molly
Payton lived close to the school. His father was the game warden
who was shot by the Indians in the Swan River.

Close to the school house on the Nine Mile a family by
the name of Kelsons lived. Next down the creek was the Ralph
Clemmens (?) place. He bought the land from the ACM Company. When
they bought out the Western Lumber Company, W. A. Clark had owned those lands. Old timers say the best timber in western Montana was on the Nine Mile. The Western Lumber Company had a dam on the lower end of the Clemmens place to hold logs, which were floated down by the Western Lumber Company to Lothrop. After Clemmens, you come to the Nine Mile House and the first Nine Mile school was this side of the Clemmen's where William Nagee now lives; a log building. I have seen pictures of this taken in 1893. Harvey Hackman has it.

BH We want to thank Harvey Hackman for his courtesy, time and effort in putting this information on tape for us. I think it would be well to remember the dates that he lived there, which was 1940 to 1952, so a good part of the information he has given is what was current during those years while he lived there. As a matter of fact, I think it is very important that he very frequently put dates on this tape to more or less point out information as it was at that particular time.

I might also mention that Harvey has a lot of pictures. As a matter of fact, he is a collector and he has many, many pictures that go way back and quite a few of the Nine Mile area. I am quite sure that anybody that might be interested would be very welcome to look and see what he might have that would be of interest to you.

Bill Hartley again, signing off. The date is April 28, 1974.

(End of tape)