

Maureen and Mike

Mansfield Library

UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

Archives and Special Collections

Mansfield Library, University of Montana

Missoula MT 59812-9936

Email: [Archives and Special Collections](#)

Telephone: (406) 243-2053

The following transcript was provided to Archives and Special Collections by the Upper Swan Valley Historical Society with its associated audio recording.

Oral History Number: 422-046, 047
Interviewee: Eunice "Dune" Wilhelm Hultman
Interviewer: Suzanne Vernon
Date of Interview: September 15, 1999
Project: Upper Swan Valley Oral History Project

Eunice Hultman: (Discussion of Condon in the 1920s.) I was born January 29, 1923. I was born at Divide, Montana, near Butte. Father was R.W. "Babe" Wilhelm. Roria Wilson. My mother's name was Eva Nail. She was born in Glendale, Oregon, I think. Babe was born in Grants Pass, Oregon. (Nationality?) Everything from the British Isles and mix in a little Dutch and German. Scotch, Irish and English. Mom's family was mostly German and Irish. The Wilhelm, that had to be German.

Suzanne Vernon: Where did you go to school?

EH: I started when I was five, and went to school at Roll School, over across the river. It burned in the fire in '29, went through there. We had just moved to a new school. I went to first grade there and second grade then they moved us over to Pine Ridge. The fire came along in October and burned everything up. (Finished up school at Pine Ridge.) High school in Missoula. Had to board out. I graduated from Missoula, high school.

SV: Nickname?

EH: My little brother gave me that name. He couldn't talk plain and it came out something like Dune. It got garbled into Dune. My proper name is Eunice.

SV: There are so many nicknames in your family. . .

EH: I know. Bill wasn't William, he was Rodney. We called him Bill. Dobb, it was baby talk. Sort of a garbled story, but something about an old Dutchman that lived near them when they were over at, they had the sawmill at Butte. He called a screwdriver a poodle-dobber. Dobb apparently picked it up and then they started calling him little dobber and it dwindled into "Dobb." And Ting? You don't want to know how he got his name. You don't want to put it in print. Well, Babe, he was the youngest one of the first litter. His family, there were four, and then his mother died. Then there were eight more. So he was just a little kid when his mother died.

SV: So he had a lot of half brothers and sisters.

EH: There were five of us. Molly is my sister. R.H. Hultman was my husband. We married in 1950. Son is Sandy, born in 1954 and Mary was born in 1956. Ted was born in 1962.

SV; When did you move to Swan?

EH: We first moved to Swan Lake when we were married, for a year. Then to Swan Valley. I grew up there and went out to high school, then came back. My folks moved to Swan Valley along about 1919 or 1920, I think. Dobb went to first grade in the Swan. Mom had moved up. Dad was still over at the sawmill (at Butte). That was when Evelyn lived with them. Dobb was six. He was born in 1915? So it would have been about 1921? 1922? I think he was six. Then Mom went back over to Wise River, anyway over there around south of Butte where they had the sawmill, then they moved the rest of the stuff up. They weren't there when I was born, but they had partially moved up here.

I don't know what they were up to.

SV: Did they ever tell you any stories about why they went to the Swan?

EH: No. They were too darn busy. Well, um, no. They went from Oregon to Butte during World War I. They were short of miners, needed men. Dad had two little kids. He was exempt for the time being. So they moved to Butte. They bought a little house. Dad said every time they just get started and begin to get on their feet a little bit, and along come a strike. So he got tired of it. So he and his brother bought an old sawmill and started a sawmill south of Butte. Then in the meantime, they traded, Dad traded the little house in Butte to Harry Halpin (sp?) for the homestead in the Swan.

SV: So that would be the Halpin homestead. Where was Halpin Hill?

EH: Where the big log house is at the home place, you look off across the meadow, and you see a little hill go up over there. That's Halpin Hill. Matthews are on top of it. But Halpin Hill was the road that went up on top of that hill. It was rough in the early days. It doesn't look like much of a hill now. The road went right by the house. That was the main road.

According to my memories, that's how they happened to get the property up there. I don't know where Art and Ada White had been. Ada was Dad's sister. They came up and Dad and Art cut a road from our old home place up to Holland Lake. They leased ground from the Forest Service and built the hotel up there. That would have been in about 1926 or so (other references say 1924). Anyway, they called it the hotel. It wasn't Holland Lake Lodge. It was the Hotel. (Mountain View, according to others.)

In about 1932, when I was in third grade or something like that, they sold it. The people that bought it couldn't handle the payments so they took it back. When they took it back Dad didn't go back into it. He started packing instead.

SV: They were partners for quite awhile then?

EH: They were partners for quite awhile. But Dad did the horse work and Ada and Art did the hotel work.

SV: Babe did the sawmill then, too?

EH: He had a sawmill up there. Most of the early-day boards that were available he sawed. Neighbors used to come and they'd get together and saw up a bunch of lumber. I don't know what the financial arrangement was. Most everybody in the valley helped him in the sawmill at one time or another.

SV: Was the sawmill at the home place?

EH: Yeah. It was located just south of where the house is, just over there in the brush. It was powered by a big old steam engine. It was kind of fun.

SV: Noisy?

EH: I don't remember the noise. I remember there was a whistle on it.

SV: Do you remember what buildings were there?

EH: There was a little homestead cabin that Buff and I burned down because it was so decrepit. The building that is there now, the saddle shed--a pretty good sized log building with a board addition on the end of it? That was our dwelling house. Then there were two big log barns that fell in and we had to burn up.

SV: Who built the first log barns that were there?

EH: I don't know if Harry Halpin did or not. The original idea from what I understand was that that house was a hotel on the road. It was to accommodate travelers. That was before I was born.

SV: Which buildings did your family build?

EH: Dad built the big house, and the buildings attached to the house. He was a good log man.

SV: How about Holland Lake Lodge.

EH: The first Holland Lake Lodge was a frame building. It was all built of lap siding. I can remember when my uncle was shoveling the snow off and fell off, too. Didn't hurt him. There was quite a bit of snow down there.

SV: Was it as big as the lodge is now?

EH: It looked bigger. It might have been bigger. It had a big upstairs with this balcony thing around that was exposed to the fireplace down below and then rooms along the sides. (We may have a picture of the inside of this in the Gordon Ranch collection.) How many rooms I have no idea. Ada and Art had their home--they called it the dwelling house--that they lived in separate. Then they had tucked away in the woods were three or four little frame cabins, you know. Board sided, sleeping cabins.

SV: The dude ranch era?

EH: That was the beginning of it. That was the first commercial property up there, I think. Whoever started Harry Halpin's place and made that for a hotel, I don't know. But Mom told me that. That was what that was intended for. It was right on the main road. When I was a kid, well it was quite a big family of us, actually. This one summer, we never ate one meal without at least fourteen people. There were always extras around.

SV: Where did you guys get all the groceries?!

EH: I have no idea. We had. . . Dad built a root cellar, and every fall he'd fill it full of root vegetables. Mom canned and canned and canned, I know that.

SV: Did you have a milk cow?

EH: Oh yeah, we always had a milk cow. Except one time when Joe and I were in the 5th and 7th grade. The cow went out in May and ate poison hemlock and died. Then Dad bought some goats. Have you ever been around goats? Well, I milked the goats, so there was no reason. . . it was good milk. But every time I'd taste that I'd (smell the goats). We never did get so we could drink that stuff. There are people that prefer it.

Mom always had chickens for eggs. We used to get baby chicks and raise them for fryers.

SV: How did you keep them warm?

EH: Mom could do anything. We had a brooder that was kerosene powered. Kept them warm. Then they just ran loose. When we wanted to have fried chicken, the kids had to catch the chickens. At times we had turkeys, and we had geese one year. No, that was Buff and I that had the geese. Only had them one summer. Mom raised turkeys, when I was 7th grade, she had all these turkeys that wound up with crooked breasts or something. They weren't marketable. So they had a community Thanksgiving. It was the whole valley. She cooked either seven or nine turkeys. Everybody brought something. We had a community Thanksgiving. I don't know how many people were there, from Condon clear as far toward Seeley as anybody lived. That was the year, the only year that I didn't go to Pine Ridge. They had it at the Rumble Creek School. Joe and I had to get ourselves down there, five miles. In the fall we rode horse back. Dad got a

little Model T Ford. Dobb was home then from High school. He'd drive us part way to school and we'd walk part way and he'd meet us on the way back. But we made it the whole year down there. Teacher was Cora Parsley (sp?).

SV: Who was the teacher at Pine Ridge?

EH: The second grade was Ailene (?) Armstrong. Third grade was Esther Judge. Fourth grade was Mary Sunderlund (?) although she may have gone by her maiden name. Fifth grade would have been. . . where in the world did Peggy Bruns come in on this? (?) Ting would have been in the eighth grade and I was five years behind him. Florence Holmes taught me seventh and eighth grade.

SV: So Joe was two years behind you?

EH: He's younger. Two and a half years. I guess he must have been three years behind then in school. I just don't know. I know they started me when I was five. When we started high school Joe was a freshman when I was a senior. I don't know how that happened.

SV: Joe told everybody he was born in the saddle shed. Which building is that?

EH: The log building that has the addition. He was the only one of us born up there. But there weren't any of us born in a hospital. Evelyn's grandmother, Mrs. Whalen who lived across the way, she was a dedicated Catholic. There was no baptism up there. So she baptized him. She had a supply of Holy Water and she baptized him. You know, it worked for her. When the fire in '29 went through, she had sprinkled holy water around her little cabin to protect her. And the fire burnt everything right up to the door step. But her cabin was safe. It's still there at Evelyn's house. They moved it over. That little log cabin that sits south of the house they live in. It stayed safe through the fire. Everything else burned up. The fire didn't get on our side of the river very much.

I remember they evacuated us. We went up and lived at Holland Lake for awhile. Except Mom didn't go. There was a fire camp right in our yard. A hundred fire fighters in our yard. She figured if they could get them out in time to save them they could get her out too. So she didn't go but the kids all went up to Holland and stayed with our aunt and uncle.

SV: Where was Babe?

EH: He was packing on another fire back in the Bob Marshall. It was in October. He came home before it was over with. I can remember him and Martin Kettleson backfiring up between the ranch and the school house. They were burning in there to back fire. But from the house, from where we were living, you could look west across the river and see the flames just clear sky high. It was just all red flames down there. I was too young to be scared. No dangers to me.

SV: Were your folks ever afraid of fire?

EH: It didn't bother them very much. It was burning there within a half a mile of us and Mom wouldn't leave the house. They weren't too worried about it. As far as worried about setting fires and things like that, no.

SV: When you were little, do you remember if Babe kept his pack stock at the ranch or at Holland Lake?

EH: We kept the stock. They didn't do that. Babe was in charge. He handled all of the horses and stuff.

SV: Did they just do hunting parties, fishing?

EH: As much fishing as hunting. Probably only one hunting trip in the fall. But he took several groups of fishermen in.

SV: Did he advertise?

EH: As packers we didn't advertise at all. We just used what showed up at the lodge, and word of mouth. Then Dad, in 1927--when Charles Lindbergh stayed up at Lindbergh Lake?--he had charge of the livestock for that. He furnished the livestock and took care of him. So I imagine that was a lot of advertising. That was Elbow Lake before that. Cap Laird moved in. I guess he was already there. "The land chuck full of hush." He took advantage of having had Lindbergh up there, although Lindbergh had nothing to do with Lindbergh lake Lodge.

SV: You weren't very old then. Were people still talking about Lindbergh?

EH: I don't remember anybody talking about. . .

[End of Tape 1, Side A]

[Tape 1, Side B]

SV: When your folks first moved there and lived in the homestead house, and helped build Holland Lake Lodge, when was the main ranch house, 33 Bar, built.

EH: That was built in 1933. That's the brand. They got the brand from Harry Halpin. On the hearth of the house, right in the middle, is 33. And that isn't the brand, that's the date. (Should double check the brand story?) Then the brand at Holland Lake Lodge was quarter circle 33, whether it was to keep up the 33's, I don't know.

SV: I'll have to do some research on the brands.

EH: When we first moved over here, there was someone at Deer Lodge who insisted that their brand was 33 Bar, and it had been registered to my family since 1920 or something. So I don't know where they got the idea . . .

SV: That's interesting it was built in 1933, and your dad built it? How much did it change over the years? Did anybody make any changes to the building?

EH: No. Dad and Fred Roll did the log work one winter, the two of them. Well, they had Hank Holmes, that was Florence's husband, he peeled the logs for them. He was living over there with us. But the log work, the axe work, Fred and Dad did. They got it up in the winter.

SV: Those are those dark logs with part of the bark gone.

EH: Yes. After we moved in, it had a shake roof to begin with. It wore out. So we had the metal roof put on it. (When she and Buff moved in, 1950s, check date.) And then the snow sliding off, it was such a menace, that originally the front door was in the middle of the porch. We had it put over on the side, so all that snow wouldn't hit somebody on the head.

Up in the third floor, it begins right at the roof line. We put a trap door, a pull down stairs in there. There's a big old pool table up there that we put in for the kids.

SV: There was some really interesting furniture in there. Did somebody local make that furniture?

EH: Was the diamond chair set still there? Pete Rude, he lived down by Glacier Creek, he did furniture making. He made just beautiful furniture. Was that library table still alive? (Yes.) I don't know what Burns' left when they left there. We (Buff and Dune) left in '74. We were married in 1950, and we were at Swan Lake for one year. It would have been 1951 or 1952.

SV: Okay, the folks were in there in 1919 or 1920, and they did this back and forth thing to the sawmill in Butte.

EH: Yeah, by 1924 we were permanently there. Joe was born there in 1925.

SV: So from that time on it was a dude ranch?

EH: No, Dad and Mom didn't have a dude ranch. We didn't keep anybody but kids there!

SV: You just ended up with a lot of people for dinner sometimes?

EH: Just drop-ins! No, we didn't do anything for entertaining guests. Dad had the horses and he worked them away from home.

SV: Did he pack into the South Fork mostly.

EH: He helped on fires (other places) but that was just a sideline. No he started packing in probably in the mid-twenties. He was one of the very first to do it. His first trip in he had a sketchy map and had to stop and figure out where he was going.

SV: Did they have a certain place they'd camp at when they would go in. . .

EH: No, they toured pretty much. They went over Holland and Gordon, down the Gordon Creek drainage. After Salmon Lake a ways they all come together.

SV: He must have had quite an outdoorsy spirit.

EH: My dad could do anything! He made some pretty intricate furniture for the house. From the old house we had a stand that held the radio that he made and designed. That was really nice. And a library table that he made out of square legs. That was pretty snazzy. But it fell apart. Nothing lasts with five kids!

SV: He was a people-person, too.

EH: Yeah, he liked people and people liked him.

SV: Do you remember any of the dudes that he took in?

EH: Not for any particular reason.

SV: What did Babe have the most fun doing? Sawmilling? Building things? Packing?

EH: I honestly don't know. I think probably when he finally wound up down at Swan Lake with the bar is when he had the best time! Because then he could just talk all day. But Dad and Mom worked. They were just laborers. There was no time for fun.

SV: What was a typical day like for your mom?

EH: Well, you get up and you cook breakfast on a wood stove. Then you clean up the mess and sweep the floor. She said before we got the washing machine it took her three days to get the laundry done on a washboard. As soon as they were available we got a gas powered Maytag. Then things were easier.

SV: Where did your water come from?

EH: We had a modern house there was a pump and sink in the kitchen. And then when we moved into the big house, we had a generator and electricity and electric pump. That was the second, or third, indoor plumbing in the valley. They had it up at the lodge, and the Gordon Ranch of course was modern. By 1933, that's how modern things were getting!

SV: Did you go over to the Gordon Ranch very often?

EH: We were friends with Kettlesons, he was the foreman, the caretaker. Martin and Bess were our closest neighbors. Dad and Mom played cards with them and we visited with them.

SV: Did they have kids?

EH: No. We were always welcome, though.

SV: What did your mom look like? Did she wear a dress a lot?

EH: Yes. She wore a dress except when she was riding a horse or something, then she had an old pair of knickers. After I was in high school she started wearing jeans. That was 1936. When I was just a little kid, probably not much after this was taken (picture of Eva and Joe). Dad was in the hills and Mom piled all five of her kids up on a couple of horses, and got a camp outfit together and we went up toward Glacier Lake, in the Missions, to pick huckleberries. We canned them and used them as sauce, mainly. You know, just fruit. Dessert. I guess you don't call it sauce anymore. We had fruit and we had fruit sauce.

SV: What did the landscape look like when you were a child, growing up? Were certain places more brushy? More open. Right around the ranch house.

EH: I can't remember it being any different. We were like wild Indians. We were all over the brush. We'd take off and run down to the river and go swimming and one thing and another. It was just forest. It wasn't impenetrable. It wasn't hard to get through.

SV: How about when you went up Glacier Creek?

EH: We went up a Forest Service trail. No problems. Logged over places have pretty much grown back again.

SV: Do you remember the blowdown at Lindbergh?

EH: No I don't. I remember hearing of the blowdown. I was in Missoula during high school. When the war started I got a job in Missoula, and stayed there for the next several years. For two years while in high school I boarded. Dad built a cabin for a family at Placid Lake. That paid for my room and board and for Bill's for two years. Charlie and Annie Vincent.

SV: Do you remember your first job?

EH: My first job was helping Ann Pennypacker with her housekeeping and kids. Ann was a little French girl. She was a little pepper pot. She was really nice, and fun to be around. She had two kids. Little Henry, a year older than my sister Molly. And Suzanne was younger.

SV: Do you remember what you got paid?

EH: I'm not sure I did. I'm not sure she paid me. Maybe she did. After I left there, I went over to Woodworth and helped Gertie Wooley. She and Millard (?) were the caretakers of one of Koessler's ranches over there. So I helped her feed the hay crew all summer. I got thirty a month for that. When I got ready to come home I didn't have any money left. I'd spent it all on mail orders! Surprise, surprise.

SV: Did you get a lot of catalogues.

EH: Mostly Montgomery Ward and Sears Roebuck. I don't remember which one it was that took all my money.

SV: Did you have magazines?

EH: Mamma always had the Saturday Evening Post and Country Gentlemen, I remember we had. And we always got this daily paper, twice a week. That's the only ones I think that we got.

SV: You said something about the radio.

EH: That was about in 29. A battery operated, Atwater-Camp. I remember that because it was such a unique name.. It ran on one car battery and half a dozen other types. I think there were three different types it would run on. The stand that Dad built had a desktop that the set sat on. Back piece, and the speakers sat up there and a shelf down underneath for the batteries.

SV: Did you have favorite programs?

EH: Amos and Andy! I don't remember what else. Musical programs that we liked. Mom could play anything. She was particularly good on the piano. So for the dances she'd play the piano. Fritz Kaser played the violin. Once in awhile Bess Kattleson's brother, Fay Lovell, would come down with the saxophone. I know several times he was there playing.

SV: Were there a lot of dances?

EH: Often enough. When they had a dance everybody went. It was at the school house usually. Hook up the team and sled and away you'd go. Kids and all. Everybody took something to eat. Sort of a potluck thing. After they built the community hall, that's where they had their dances. I don't know when that was.

SV: Fall of '39. Never did figure out who built the community hall. You were in high school.

EH: You know there's a log worker up there that I can't remember. Somebody who did log work.

SV: Did they have any dances at the 33 Bar?

EH: No. A girl friend talked me into have a bunch of kids up there for a dance one time. But, no. They had dances up at Holland Lake Lodge every now and then. Big dances. One dance up there when Shorty Koessler was there. He was 6'4" or so. I was a six or seven year old. And he asked me to dance. I was dancing with him, and at the same time, this little boy my age, Russ Maloney, he was dancing with the teacher who was about six feet tall. That was quite a combination.

Pete Rude furnished a lot of the music for dances. He played the accordion. Harold Haasch played some. But mainly Carl, his older brother, played for the dances a lot.

SV: It just seems like everybody living so far apart, they didn't need an excuse to get together.

EH: I don't know how they got the word out. People from Salmon Prairie, Foxes and Andersons, Johnsons, all got together one time. They all loaded into a sleigh and came up and went to a dance at Holland Lake. They parked at our house to break the monotony I guess. I think they slept over at our house. They just all piled into the sleigh and went to a dance.

As a kid, there was no problems. Maybe Dad and Mom worried about things, but we didn't!

SV: Do you remember any special meals?

EH: Some people baked a cake and some people made sandwiches. It was sandwiches and cake for the most part. Salmon was a very popular thing to put in a sandwich. Make a box full of salmon sandwiches.

SV: Just mix it up with mayonnaise or butter?

EH: It was mixed into a filling. Nobody had mayonnaise so I don't know what they used. Mom used sour cream. We had our own cows. This real thick cream. So when it soured it made great additions to spreads and stuff. But we didn't buy mayonnaise.

SV: What did they drink?

EH: It was coffee. And the kids drank water. The home brew was mainly for at home. I don't know if they had it at the dances. Of course at my age then I don't know if they had it.

SV: Do you remember any of the other things that people would bring to a holiday meal?

EH: Well, we had the mashed potatoes. Somebody brought sweet potatoes.

[End of Tape 1, Side B]

[Tape 2, Side A]

EH: (Talking about the 33 Bar when she and Buff outfitted.) We advertised then, got guests and stuff. We did that for about twenty years.

SV: Did you enjoy it?

EH: I got awful tired of it. Individually the people were great, but to spend the whole summer with no time to myself got pretty stale. We did fall trips. Hunting. I didn't have so much to do then, except we got the school bus contract and I drove the school bus all the time. We sold later to Dale Conley. (1960s some time.)

SV: Do you remember Ed Foss?

EH: When Ed first came out (he came for a backcountry trip with us) he was with the Trail Rider group. He no more than lit at the ranch and strained a groin muscle and he couldn't ride. So he walked the whole trip. They trailed a horse for him but he never used it!

SV: Who were the Trail Riders?

EH: It was the American Forestry Association, nothing to do with Forest Service. They booked these summer trips all over the country. We had quite a few of them. They did the booking and somebody contracted to do the packing.

SV: Were the people from back East mostly?

EH: All over. Our first group was about 25 people and it was from California to Washington D.C. They were all mixed groups.

SV: Did you get to go back into the hills?

EH: No. My legs had given up on me and I couldn't ride. It was hard on me. I spent my whole childhood on a horse.

SV: Where did Buff have his camps back there?

EH: All over. He'd go down the Gordon, Gordon Creek, White River, Big Prairie, over by the Chinese Wall and back up to Salmon.

SV: Did he ever talk about seeing wolves?

EH: He might have mentioned seeing one once in awhile, but not to indicate that wolves were anything to look at. They'd meet a grizzly every once in awhile. They just knew to keep their distance.

SV: Did you ever see grizzlies when you were a kid?

EH: No, not down in the valley. When we were kids, if we saw a bear, you know what we did? We chased them. It ran the other way faster than we could! I don't think you'd dare try it now. You see a bear you be careful. But we used to just chase them.

SV: Lucille showed me a picture in Life magazine, about 1955. Joe and Harold were in it.

EH: I don't remember. Joe and Harold helped us. Lucille must have been the cook.

SV: Did you have any pictures from your outfitting and packing days?

EH: Oh yeah, lots. From those days. Someplace I've got some pictures of Dad's camps, but I don't know where I've put them.

SV: We sort of have a void for information about outfitting. Was it a big part of the economy up there?

EH: Well, was it? Because, uh, Dad was packing. Holland Lake Lodge was in, and Lindbergh Lodge was in. But beyond that I don't think there were any commercial guest accommodations. (Would have been the Gordon Ranch in the thirties, but maybe not after that.) It was after the war I think packing became a popular sport.

SV: Why did you and Buff get into packing?

EH: He just thought he wanted to, I guess.

SV: Had he grown up with it?

EH: No. He grew up in Butte. His dad ran a restaurant. Then after high school he wound up down in California going to the Pasadena Play House. And he became, he graduated from there and became an actor. Along came the war and he enlisted. After the war he made a couple of western pictures or something. Then he decided that he wanted to move up to Montana and start a resort.

SV: So he was a people person, kind of like your Dad?

EH: Yeah. He was good at talking.

SV: All the romance of the mountains kind of grabs hold of people, doesn't it?

EH: We had people that went in year after year, just for the trip in. Seems to grab them.

SV: If somebody were to ask you what the best part about growing up in the Swan was, what would you tell them?

EH: Oh I think it was the years when Dad was packing and we had all the horses. We used to hop on a horse and go riding across the burn. I don't know. There was just such freedom. Nobody asked much of us, we just did it. (The big fire in '29. That was the burn.)

SV: What was the worst part?

EH: I don't know that there was any worst part. We were perfectly happy. We didn't have much but we didn't know it.

SV: If you had advice to offer people today, what would you say to them?

EH: I don't know what made them move up there in the first place. I wonder what do people live on up there! Now they can't cut timber any more very much.

SV: A lot of people make their livings somewhere else.

EH: You mean they work out and come back in? That's what a lot of the early homesteaders did. The men went out and worked in the woods and then they'd come back for the summer.

SV: Your dad didn't have to do that too much?

EH: No. They started the Lodge and then they had the sawmill. He worked on the road for the county plowing snow and stuff. We had the team. His original idea of moving up there was to have a dairy ranch, so we had a pile of cows. But I think that palled pretty quickly. We had a couple of strong boys to milk them, but. . . I think probably it was the idea of building the lodge that vetoed that (dairy) idea. How they were going to get rid of the milk and cream, I don't know.

SV: A lot of people did have dairy cows. They sold cream.

EH: They put it on the stage and shipped it out.

SV: Cutting hay must have been a chore.

EH: We cut all those little slough grass meadows. I think an awful lot of the horses in the early days died of swamp fever from eating slough grass, although that's just a thought.

SV: I could check on that more. Do you remember where the water came from at the 33 Bar?

EH: We were on a water table that was only about ten or twelve feet below the surface. So anyplace you sink a pipe down you got a well. They used to drive a well point by hand and have enough water.

SV: After you sold the ranch up here, what happened to the ranch?

EH: We leased it out to Virgil and Barbara Burns, and sold them a little acreage next to it. That was for five years. After that we sold it about three or four times before Arquette's got it.

[End of Interview]