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This transcript represents the nearly verbatim record of an unrehearsed interview. Please bear in mind that you are reading the spoken word rather than the written word.

Oral History Number: 120-006d
Interviewee: Grace Leavitt Iman
Interviewer: May Vallance
Date of Interview: February 17, 1978
Project: Bitterroot Historical Society Oral History Project

May Vallance: —and that you went to the Sleeping Child school.

Grace Leavitt Iman: When I was Grace Leavitt?

MV: Yes.

GI: I was Grace Leavitt.

MV: What was your father's name?

GI: Fred.

MV: Yes, and how long did you live up on Sleeping Child?

GI: Until I graduated from the eighth grade.

MV: Up there, yes.

GI: But we took our exam in Hamilton.

MV: Yes. You had to take the state examinations.

GI: Oh, yes.

MV: Well, what were the names of some of the kids that went to school up there when you did?

GI: Well, the three are Minnie and Charlotte and Rose and Ben. There was another—

MV: Marguerite?

GI: Yes, Marguerite and Charlotte and Rose.

MV: Yes. And Ben. Then there were some Sees, weren't there?

GI: Oh, yes, there were lots of Sees. There was Ida, but they was farther up the creek, you know, and we didn't see them so much.

MV: Only just when you went to school. You didn't have a chance to play with them. The Artleys lived down below.

GI: And we played with them all the time.

MV: Did they live where the Grebes lived?

GI: No. That was Grandpa Artley.

MV: Oh, was it?

GI: Marguerite and Charlotte and Rose and them all lived across the creek from—

MV: Yes.

GI: Their dad was Cap Artley.

MV: Yes. Did they live across the creek where Diamonds lived at one time?

GI: No. They built their house little house across the creek.

MV: Oh, I see.

GI: And he round up threshing machine (?).

MV: Yes, I knew about that. I knew that Ben was always interested in old threshing machines because his dad. You say that you had box socials and dances at the school? Any funny thing happen at the box socials?

GI: No, not...I can't remember special things. The women would get together, maybe two or three, you know and fix their boxes so they'd have a nice box and different things. We didn't do shopping (?) like we do now.

MV: Oh, no, you used what you had.

GI: Yes. That's why you got together.

MV: That's about the only way you got any news of anything was somebody—

GI: I don't know. News traveled awful fast then, too.

MV: Yes. [laughs]

GI: Gossip.

MV: At school, you always told everybody everything you could think of.

GI: We weren't taught to do that.

MV: No? Well, what I meant was current events: anything that—

GI: I don't know. You got your current events from the butcher wagon. The butcher wagon would come twice a week.

MV: Who was the one that had the butcher wagon?

GI: Gosh, I don't remember anymore, but he drove a pair of mules.

MV: Yes. Let's see, Clo (?) somebody downtown, her father. Did anybody bring groceries up to you at all?

GI: Not then. They had a little grocery store where you got a few groceries.

MV: Up Sleeping Child?

GI: Yes.

MV: Oh, I didn't know that. Where was that, right at the mouth?

GI: Yes. But we didn't have to have as many groceries to as they do now.

MV: Well, no. You raised everything. You had your chickens, and you had your meat mostly and your garden stuff, and so you didn't have to go and get groceries.

GI: We didn't get groceries very often. But I can remember we did more than any—

[End of Interview]