

Don Clark
2 reels
Nenana
7½ rps

Interviewed at his home
Nenana, Alaska
by N. Jacobs
Fall, 1971

Reel One is an edited tape, prepared originally for broadcast on the KUAC radio series "Chechakho Chats," but was never used.

The interview is an informative visit with a riverboat pilot of many years experience. While originally prepared to be used with a radio script, the tape has complete continuity as Clark discusses riverboating in the Tanana-Yukon river system.

Reel Two contains additional material not intended for use on the radio program, which ^(Reel one) was specifically edited for conversation about riverboating. Reel Two contains "left over" conversation about life in villages along the rivers where Don grew up.

Don Clark was born in 1914 at Nulato, 150 miles below Ruby. His father was a riverboat man, and Don grew up on the boats and on the rivers.

On these tapes he talks about his own experiences as well as his father's--on the rivers, driving dogs, running boats, life in general.

Don tells a number of experiences he has had as a pilot. He describes the work and findings of a friend of his who was skindiving in the Chena and Tanana rivers, and talks about present conditions in riverboating. He reminisces about boyhood experiences and tells about Gordon Bettles who ran Koyukuk Station.

The tape (2) closes with a description of the run from Bettles to Alatna on the Koyukuk River.