

W: They had a log house there, but that's been gone a long time. When I came here, they were living in the log house. I think they might have had the frame house built, but they were still in the log house. *the log house was still there. Dorothy, a wife and*

When Dad came, his mom lived in that log house after Springbetts moved out. *Theresa mother stayed there when coming to Fair*

W: I never met Gordon (Springbett). He was already gone.

B: Colleen, was your grandfather also Gordon?

C: Yes.

W: He was a carpenter for Pan American. He did aircraft woodwork.

B: This book of vital statistics mentions a Gordon Springbett who died in the '40s and he couldn't have been your uncle... *The same Gordon he died in the 40s before I came*

C: I heard he got on with Pan Am because they had a crash in Chicken and my grandfather was there, mining. He fixed the skis on the plane so they hired him.... *To Fairbanks*

W: Yeah, I started out on my own and worked up and in '97 I got a Master Mechanic's award from the FAA. You had to have worked around airplanes for fifty years and have an A&P license for thirty. And I got the Charles Taylor Master Mechanic award.

C: You rebuilt that plane in your garage and it went down to Anchorage.

W: Yeah, to the Air Museum. Then there's a Fairchild T24 that's in there that I built a stabilizer for in my basement in '90. It's one that the CAA used to have that they brought to Alaska. Then the old Norseman that I rebuilt the wings on in '48, made skis for, it's in the museum there....

When I came here, Pan Am was at Ladd Field. They were flying bigger airplanes so there were using Ladd. They moved out to International around '51.... I came up on a DC3. We landed at Annette Island and Juneau, Whitehorse. *End except for visiting.*

Transcribed and edited by Bruth George

I agree to share this material with fellow interviewees and others interested in local history.	
<i>Walter Eberhardt</i>	<i>Apr 30, 01</i>
name	date