

ORAL HISTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: Homer O. Williams
(first) (middle) (last)

(NICKNAME:) "Red" (MAIDEN NAME:) _____

MAILING ADDRESS: 1048 Norris Lane, Fairbanks, AK 99712
(city/state/zip)

DATE OF BIRTH: 9/17/15 BIRTHPLACE Licking Union, Kentucky
(city/state)

SPOUSE: Jane Norris Williams

MARRIAGE DATE: 3/16/42 PLACE: _____

CHILDREN: Robin Williams; Gene Williams; Jane Williams;
Rourke Williams; Martha Williams Hirt

ALASKAN RESIDENCY: since 1940. Graduated Miami University (Ohio);
came to Alaska looking for work,; got a job on a fish trap in Ketchikan

OCCUPATION/PROFESSION: Teacher, administrator, school board member
and private commercial aviator

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT IN RELATION TO ORAL HISTORY:
Details about being UA student in 1940; student teaching at Main School
in 1940; teaching at Nikolai, 1953; teaching at Fort Yukon, 1955;
teaching at Lathrop High School, Fairbanks, 1958; superintendent at
Valdez immediately following the 196 earthquake; superintendent at
Nenana following the 1967 flood; discussion of BIA and Territorial
schools, teacher hardships in rural communities, teaching requirements
in 1940s, education of native children, impact of Ladd Air Field in 1950s.

INTERVIEWER: Susan Fisher: 'ON THE ROAD' BP Exploration grant project

DATE OF INTERVIEW: 3/11/91 TAPE NUMBER: 305

also HBS -21

H91-11

Red Williams tape

Gilbertson mine, 1940
Fairbanks boardinghouse

University of Alaska:
Cost to attend
Course offerings
Education program
Student teaching
Dr. James C. Ryan
Cadet pilots
Native students

Main School, 1940

Alaska education, 1940s and 1950s
Teacher hiring, turnover
Teaching in rural communities (Nikolai, Fort Yukon)
Nikolai Russian Orthodox Church
Missionary schools
Territorial schools
Bureau of Indian Affairs schools
Native education
Mount Edgecumbe School
Married teachers

Lathrop High School, 1958
Impact of Ladd Air Field on student enrollment, 1950s

Fairbanks, general:
Paul Greimann bus service
Russ Huber, purchase of downtown property

J. Ellsworth McCarthy, Fairbanks school administrator

Valdez schools, immediately following 1964 earthquake

Nenana school, following 1967 flood

Fairbanks School Board