

1794-13-19

ORAL HISTORY BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

NAME: Harvey W. Marlin, Jr.

MAILING ADDRESS: 665 10th Ave - #311 Eldorado #1

DATE OF BIRTH: Seattle, Washington - Aug 1, 1918

Spouse: Patricia

Marriage Date: Aug 1942 Place: Fairbanks, Alaska

ALASKAN RESIDENCY: since 1929

OCCUPATION: partner in Ghemm Construction Company

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT IN RELATION TO ORAL HISTORY;

With his family, Harvey Marlin came to Alaska in 1929 to live on a fox farm between Fairbanks and Nenana. He talks about raising mink as well as fox. He and his siblings collected fish from the five fish wheels for the animals' feed.

During the winter, the family moved to Fairbanks so that the children could attend school. Marlin graduated from Fairbanks High School in 1937 and worked in gold mining after that at Cleary dredge, Pedro dredge and Cripple Creek #10 dredge until World War II.

He spent the war years in the National Guard in varied places such as Ft. Richardson, Valdez, Attu, and India. Marlin returned to his former job with the F. E. Company at Ester.

With Bobby Mitchell and three other partners, childhood friends, he formed Ghemm Construction Company in 1952, each letter being the first letter of the last name of each partner - Clyde Geraghty, Carl Heflinger, Carl Erickson, Bobby Mitchell and Harvey Marlin. When Heflinger left, Con Frank became a partner. The company has constructed bridges and buildings nearly everywhere north of the Alaska Range.

Some names mentioned on tape:

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| George Black | August Wenzel (grandfather) |
| Frank Pollock | Julian Hurley |
| Bert Walker | Don Adler |
| Jack Kunkel | Dr. Haggland |
| Earl Beistline | Cecil Quimby |
| Charlie Wehner | Earl Heath |
| Walt Wigger | Soren Thorup |
| Dick Mann | Harry Cowden |
| Carl Heflinger | Al Lennon |
| Con Frank | Woody Johansen |
| Carl Erickson | Bobby Mitchell |
| Clyde Geraghty | |

Interviewer: Margaret Van Cleve

Date of Interview June 14, 1994 Tape number # 580