

Lines, Wilma C.**Tape Catalogue Card**

Phone 000-0000
Address 1104 York St., Montrose, Co. 81401
Date Jan. 26, 1990
Place Montrose, Co.
Interviewer Davine Pera
Phone 728-3632
Time

Tape # OH22
Location OH File
Length 76 min.
Sides 2
Recorder Marantz
Sep Mike No

Names & Places Subjects covered

- 00-70 Date of birth. she was born in Montrose, Co., lived there for 2 years then the family moved to Telluride and the Lizard Head timber spur, where her father worked. She also lived in Sawpit and Redvale and then moved to Sams on Dallas.
- 70-290 Pilchers, Taylor, F. Wilson Speaks of school days in Telluride. They moved to the Smuggler Mine in 1924 or 25. She attended school at the Smuggler in grades 4 through 7. Describes life at Smuggler. Snow was usually 3 or 4 feet deep and there weren't many level places to get out in, except the road which ran between their house and the school house. They rode the mail sled to the Tomboy (1 mile up the road) and then coasted all the way back, under the Elephant snow slide. Talks about the school yard, the small play ground and the aptment house they lived in. The apartment house was bolted to the side of the hill with cable. Describes the apartment house and the fire escapes. There was a school at the Tomboy also. The grocery stores in Telluride delivered milk and groceries on the tram. In 1926, her father bought his frst car, 1926 Starr. He put it in low gear in Telluride, which was 4 miles away, and it took 1 hour to get to the Smuggler. They did not go out much in the winter, but the stage took the mail up to the Tomboy every day from Telluride. Describes the stage. The mine company showed silent movies at night in the dinning hall. The Tomboy closed before the Smuggler did in 1927. Her parents celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary party at the Smuggler and the mining company gave them a set of silverware, which she still has. Recites story of plumbing facilities at the apartment house.
- 290-448 Joe Oberto, Fred Goldsworthy, Thiebolt Her family moved to a ranch in Norwood until after the depression, then back to Telluride. They bought the old Gardener house for \$250. Her father wanted to get out of the mine, so he bought the store and post office at Sams on Dallas for \$1200. Talks about life at Sams. The post office served people on the mesas. There was also a shipping dock there and people shipped milk, cream and chickens and etc. The ranchers on the mesas used skis in the winter to travel and lots of people stopped for pop, candy and etc. before returning to their ranches. First snowmobile was built by friend out of a Ford, with propellers on front and runners on the bottom. It was pulled by horses. There was a large commnity of ranchers on the surrounding mesas that used their facilities. People brought cream and milk to be shipped from their dock to Ridgeway on the train. Later on, freight was shipped on the Galloping Goose. Describes the Galloping Goose schedule. Freight trains carried sheep, cows coal and lumber. Sometimes the snow was 6 feet deep there. Mr. Thiebolt had a large trucking line to Norwood. Mail was shipped on the Galloping Goose. Wilma was the post mistress at Sams.
- 448-540 Grace Betts, Jane Finnegan, Hudson, Describes life at Sams. There were 15 boxes at the post office at

Lovelace Sams. Several families lived there. There was a school house and some of the children from the surrounding mesas attended school there after some of the schools on the mesas closed. There was also a school at Leonard and a small post office. Sams had its own power plant, and hauled ice from Ridgeway, which they cut from a pond and stored all summer in the ice house. They raised their own produce and had a lovely flower garden.

540-583 Marie Scott, Lorraine Hamey Describes social life while living at Sams. Wilma was good friends with Marie Scott and her sister. Spent lots of time together. Went with her to visit cow camps to take food and supplies. They saw lots of wild life from the window of their house, such as elk, deer, and bear.

SIDE B 10-149 Denny Dennison, Mrs. Gearing, Harry Long Describes her job as postmistress at Sams. She moved to Telluride and started working at the post office in 1948. She bought the house from Mable Elscamp on Main Street. Her father died in 1953 and her mother in 1965. The post office was located on the first floor of the Miner's Union. Wilma, her mother and sister rented the top floor of the Miner's Union in 1928 & 1929, while her father worked in Silverton. Describes living there and her activities as a child. They had 2 renters on the second floor. Her sister was married in the hallway of the top floor.

149-240 The family moved to Norwood during the depression and she speaks of life at that time. Mother canned chickens and produce, sold cottage cheese for 25 cents a gallon, and \$3 for 5 gallons of cream. Sister and husband moved home. The family gave up the ranch and moved to Sams. She received \$30 a month as post mistress there. Her parents celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Telluride.

240-475 Minnie Ackerman, Alta Cassietto, Jeannette Hunt, Tom McMahn Joe Hardy, Aley Oop, Mary Ellen Inama, Swede Marie, Fanny Big Billie, Jew Fanny Talks about her many years working in the Telluride Post Office. There were 300 boxes when she started there. Names various ladies she worked with through the years. After the post office was moved from the Miner's Union building to a new location on Main Street, she did the janitor work. Did not see many changes in 30 years. Everything was done by hand. She relates funny stories about the public. Also mentions Tom McMahn, who was head of the Democratic party at one time. He was a very prominent citizen for many years. His son was the first boy from San Miguel County to be killed in World War II. Talks about Swede Marie and Big Billie. Her brother used to deliver groceries to the "ladies on the line". Names various ladies who worked there. Wilma's sister worked in the printing shop at the Examiner.