

INTERVIEW SUMMARY-TAPE INDEX

NAME: McKinney, Judith Jean
DATE OF INTERVIEW:
LOCATION:
INTERVIEWER:
REEL NO.

| TAPE MINUTE | MANUSCRIPT PAGE | SUMMARY OF CONTENTS |
|----------------|--------------------|--|
| 0-9:00 | | Personal Data Sheet. Parent's background. Brothers and sisters background information. |
| 9:01-15:00 | | Skills; hobbies and clubs; awards. Discussion of school, system today. Feelings of school during childhood. Potlatch in early days. |
| 15:01-20:00 | | Feelings of living in Potlatch. Childhood chores. Changes from her childhood to children's life. Social stature in town. Marriage - feelings. Courtship. |
| 20:01-26:50 | | Business houses. Medical services available - went to Moscow for childbirth. Mother had doctor deliver children. Discussion of having twin babies. |
| 26:51-32:35 | | Janitor job. Entertainment. Discussion of relationship with mother. Gardening - trouble with well and septic tank. |
| 32:36-37:00 | | Support given to family. Feelings of city life. Discussion of child-rearing. |
| 37:01-39:50 | | Feelings of living in rural area. |
| END | | |

This is an interview with Judith Jean McKinney on Jan. 25, 1975. The interviewer is Jeanne Scott.

1

JS: On Jan. 25 I'm recording an interview with Judy McKinney.

JS: What's your full name?

JM: Judith Jean McKinney.

JS: What was your maiden name?

JM: Cooney.

JS: And your date of birth?

JM: May 14, 1944.

JS: Place of birth?

JM: Antigo, Wisconsin.

JS: Do you have any nicknames?

JM: Not now.

JS: Did you have any when you were younger?

JM: Yeah, my dad used to call me Snoit.

JS: Where did he get that?

JM: I don't know.

JS: Any other ones?

JM: No.

JS: Your address here?

JM: Box 331, Potlatch.

JS: Your locale of first residence in Idaho?

JM: Well we lived in Saint Maries for a while.

JS: You lived in Saint Maries, oh you lived there first, I didn't know that.

JS: And before you moved here where did you live?

JM: Wisconsin, White Lake.

JS: And when did you get to Idaho?

JM: ~~1929~~ 1949

JS: Mode of travel, how did you get here?

JM: By car.

JS: Companions on trip?

*personal
data*

JM: Just the family.

JS: And family background. Mother's maiden name?

JM: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

JS: [REDACTED] birth?

JS:

JM: Nov. 23. I'd be a terrible one to interview, I don't know my mom's date of birth. (1919)

JS: The year she was married?

JM: August 13 but I don't know what year.

JS: What are the jobs that your mom has held?

JM: Well she used to be a waitress.

JS: Was that in this building, the hotel in Potlatch?

JM: Yes and now she works in the cleaners.

JS: And your dad's family?

JM: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

JS: And his occupation?

JM: He's retired now.

JS: O.K. I'll put that down because that's a nice occupation. And his date of birth?

JM: It would be May 25, were they the same age? Probably could figure it out if you subtract, well let's see, he'll be 63 this May so 1902.

JS: Place of birth?

JM: It was Wisconsin, I couldn't tell you what place.

JS: I'm not so good at filling out forms. Your brothers and sisters?

JM: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] That's it.

JS: And your spouse's name?

JM: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

JS: And his date of birth?

JM: June 29, 1941.

JS: Where was he born?

JM: In Potlatch, Idaho.

JS: Where were you married and when?

JM: We were married in Coeur d'Alene in 1962.

JS: And what's his job?

JM: He's a logger, a log truck driver.

JS: And does he ~~get out~~ ^{take them up them himself} and load ~~these trucks~~ too?

JM: No he just drives them. There is an outfit there that load it.

JS: And your children's names?

JM: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

JS: Their date of birth for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

JM: August 18, 1962.

JS: Occupation as a student.

JS: When was [REDACTED] born?

JM: August 10, 1966.

JS: We were kidding around on ~~these~~ ^{these} forms and you know this part on how did you get to Idaho. How did you arrive in Idaho and they came by you.

JS: O.K. Personal information. Your education, you graduated from high school here?

JM: Well yeah, not really. I quit and then I went back and got my.....

JS: How long was it before you went back?

JM: Oh I just went and took ~~one of~~ those GED tests and that was about 2 or 3 years ago when I did that.

JS: Oh really. I know they shouldn't let kids graduate ^{AS SOON AS} ~~if~~ they're ready to be out of school. (?)

JM: Because I went 11½ years I only had a ½ a year left.

JS: Why did you quit, to get married?

JM: My brothers in school now and they don't have enough stuff to take when they're seniors they lack 3 study hours a day. They shouldn't let them graduate.

JM: They do down here now, they ~~can go ahead and~~ graduate, *ahead of time.*

JS: Your skills? Handiwoman around the house?

JM: That's awful work.

JS: And you janitored?

JM: Yes.

JS: Now let's see, interest or hobbies, talents or clubs, groups?

JM: Well I bowl and I paint pictures once in a while.

JS: Do you have any here now?

JM: Yeah I've got one in my bedroom but mother did that one.

JS: Awards ribbons or honors?

JM: Well in bowling that's about it.

JS: You have trophies?

JM: Yes we ^{have} ~~got~~ one trophy that we got for 2nd place.

JS: And [REDACTED] does he bowl with you?

JM: No it's just with women.

JS: Now I get to ask questions like, when you were in school how's it different than your kids?

JM: You really want me to say that?

JS: Yes.

JM: I think the schools are too lenient today.

JS: Yes it's really a strange system, it's all open.

JM: Yes I do, I really didn't get away with things in school like they do today.

JS: Did you hear about the order that the Supreme Court just passed, not an order but they decided that when they suspend kids from school they're giving them a chance to tell their side of it now. It isn't such a big thing but the kids *aren't suspended.*

JM: Well I think they ^{get} ~~do~~ away with too much in the classrooms, myself.

JS: How do you feel about the grading system, about points?

JM: Yes now I don't know anything about, they are graded by the point system.

I don't know what that is either. We were graded by our tests and how we participated in class.

JS: Did you enjoy school?

JM: No I didn't like school. I really didn't and I couldn't tell you why either. It wasn't the school, I just wasn't interested in school.

JS: Did you have a lot of homework in school?

JM: Yes we had quite a bit of homework.

JS: More than your kids get?

JM: Oh I think so. I think we did.

JS: Are a lot of the teachers still the same ones you know?

JM: No they have a lot of the younger teachers are coming in now.

JS: You went to school in the *Hiawatha apartment* building didn't you?

JM: Yes.

JS: How many kids were in your class, are there more kids in Potlatch now are there more people in Potlatch now?

JM: Oh definitely!

JS: When you first moved here, how ^{old} was Potlatch as a town, do you know?

JM: No I don't have any idea.

JS: How was your childhood in Potlatch?

JM: I enjoyed it, I liked the people.

JS: Did you ^{think you had} ~~have~~ more things to do than your kids do?

JM: Yes we had a lot more to do than they do.

JS: Was it stuff as a family that you decided to do or as a town?

JM: Well it wasn't even in town. There used to be a roller rink down here on the highway and we'd go there and roller skate and ~~we~~ ^{they would} have dances there with country stars that would come.

JS: You said [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was there?

JM: Yes. We had things to do. We had a confectionary.

JS: What was that a candy store?

JM: No it was a cafe and all the kids used to go there. It's where the confectionary is now when they closed that cafe out. There's nothing really for the kids today here. There used to be a movie hall here too, years ago.

JS: Now you have to go to Moscow to see a movie?

JM: Yes you have to go to Moscow to do anything.

JS: Oh so you didn't have to go to Moscow too much before when you were younger?

JM: When we were real little.

JS: Did you get to go shopping when you were older?

JM: Yes. Then the Mercantile burned down and that was the drug store and grocery store and we missed that. That was where the shopping center is now only it took the full length and there used to be a little bank there too. And the post office.

JS: And the hotel burned down too?

JM: And then the hotel burned down.

JS: Wow, was it a woodfire, the buildings got too old?

JM: Yes the buildings were real old.

JS: How was Potlatch when you came to it? Did it still have the wooden sidewalks and stuff?

JM: Yes but I couldn't tell you much because I don't remember.

JS: When did you move to Onaway? (end of tape 2 side 1)

JS: You must've moved in '65. Do you like it here better?

JM: Yes I like Onaway better than Potlatch.

JS: Why, because there's more room?

JM: Well yeah because I like the area we live in, we don't have neighbors real close and you can have your animals without all these ordinances. I just like it over here a lot better. Potlatch isn't that far, if I

need something, I can go over there.

JS: Have they changed the ordinance in Potlatch, you mentioned about having animals?

JM: Well you can have them but you have to keep them tied up. Of course you can't have horses or anything like that over there. Where here we could raise a cow if we wanted to, anything. Goats, chickens.

JS: Did you feel when you were a child, your brothers had more opportunities than you?

JM: No, not really.

JS: Was there a division with chores, did you have to do more work than they did? *Did they do more than you?*

JM: They did more than I did.

JS: What did they have to do?

JM: Well Janice had to do a lot of the cooking. I was the baby I didn't do anything, absolutely nothing.

JS: Do you think [REDACTED] worked harder than your brothers?

JM: Oh yeah. [REDACTED] had a lot of responsibility when she was younger.

JS: What did your brothers have to do, did they do gardening?

JM: I don't even think we had a garden, I don't know.

JS: Do you ^{think} see your family now ^{is a lot} as not like the family you grew up with?

JM: Oh yeah.

JS: Do you think the trends have changed the way families ^{are now} as opposed to the way families were when you were growing up?

JM: Yes.

JS: Do you think it's better or worse or how have things changed?

JM: ^{Oh I think} The conditions are better for bringing kids up. And I also think that parents are a little too lenient with kids now.

JS: What conditions do you mean?

JM: Well cars, money and having nicer homes.

JS: When there are a lot of kids in a pretty small home, is that hard to get along then when you're all so close? Had anyone left home ^{by the time} like when you were in grade school, your older brothers?

JM: Yeah [REDACTED] went into the service but I can't remember much when I was a little kid.

JS: Did you like being in Potlatch where everybody was kind of in the same class, social class? There wasn't any discrimination with things money-wise.

JM: Well I think there is just about any place you live, really.

JS: In the town was it set up like the order of the mill or did people have ^{the higher} ~~to hire~~ jobs?

JM: They call knowhill, Snobhill. That would be where the bigger (?) lived.

JS: Is it still pretty much the same like that or has it changed a lot?

JM: Oh I think its' changed really because there are people that ^{don't} consider ^{themselves} ~~they don't have~~ to be up on Knobhill to have nice homes.

JS: How long did you know [REDACTED] before you got married? Did you go to school together?

JM: Oh yes.

JS: Since you were in 1st grade and stuff?
^{yeah,}

JM: He went to the 1st grade in Potlatch too but I really didn't know him. I wouldn't say that I actually started knowing him until the summer until I was out of the 8th grade.

JS: Were you the same age?

JM: No he's two years older than I am.

JS: When did you decide to get married, was it a long time?

JM: Well I don't know about him.

JS: You knew for a lifetime?

JM: Maybe 6 months.

JS: Your parents liked him didn't they?

JM: Yes.

JS: Did you have dates a lot, what was your courtship like?

JM: Well we dated off an on for 3½ years.

JS: Then you went to like the picture shows in Potlatch?

JM: No it wasn't here then.

JS: Oh it wasn't, when was it taken out?

JM: Oh I don't remember. It was a long time.

JS: How come they quit, they lost the business, do you know?

JM: I don't know, they probably condemned the building, because it was a real old building.

JS: It was still a company town then when you were growing up and did they take better care of the buildings than they ~~do now?~~ *take care of them now?*

JM: Oh *I* think so.

JS: Do you think the buildings were running down because they were old?

Do they have more of a life span with the companies taking care of them?

I lived in one the *various* houses and it was in bad shape but I don't know if it was because it was an old house or we didn't take care of it.

JM: Well, *as far as* as far as the houses well people owned a lot of them I don't think they private owned took care of them but *the* businesses, I think they try to keep them better now.

JS: Is the hotel redone?

JM: Well I don't know how the PFI took care of the houses when they owned them, I really don't.

JS: Did you decide to have kids, did you talk about it?

JM: No, we just had them.

JS: Did you have any expectations of your marriage?

JM: No we just got married and had kids and *now we're done.*

JS: How long have you been married?

JM: Next month it will be 13 years.

JS: Oh that's pretty good.

JS: What kind of medical services were there for you when you had kids, did you have to go to Moscow, were there any doctors here?

JM: There were doctors but you had to go to Moscow to the hospital to have them but I always had a doctor in Moscow.

JS: There are a few questions that I would've liked ^{of ed} to ask [REDACTED] Did she have a midwife, she had you kids at home.

JM: No I don't think she did. Well she didn't have a midwife with [REDACTED] she had [REDACTED] at home.

JS: Did she have a doctor come?

JM: Yes there was a doctor there.

And like now

JS: People go to hospitals because doctors don't make house calls.

JM: I think dad helped with the delivery of [REDACTED]

JS: Yes he was telling me about that once. Good way to start out *early kinship.*

JM: I guess [REDACTED] was born in the hospital. I guess [REDACTED] was the only one born at home.

JS: Describe the most interesting childbirth experience to you. How was it having twins? How long before did you know?[?]

JM: 7 months.

JS: Oh you knew it from the start?

JM: No they told me when I was 7 months along.

JS: Were you excited?

JM: No I was kind of scared, really.

JS: Did you think ^{having} about twins, were there twins in your mom's family?

JM: No I never ^{really} thought that I would be the one to have twins and I knew there was twins. My mother said the littlest one in the family ^{would} and I'd have to have twins. ^{But I would say} I was kind of scared, of course I was quite young.

JS: It was your first time, how far apart were they, how many minutes?

JM: Three.

JS: Well that was quick, you just got them out.

JM: Yes I was awake when [REDACTED] came and then I went out when [REDACTED] was born.

JS: The doctor gave you an anesthetic?

JM: Yes, I had a saddle block but it didn't work and I had complications with it too.

JS: Because they didn't come out the right way or something?

JM: No my uterus tore and ^I he had to back up and *into surgery.*

JS: Before they could get born?

JM: After they were born, when [REDACTED] was born.

JS: Did that make any complications for when [REDACTED] was born?

JM: No [REDACTED] was like going on a picnic.

JS: Oh after carrying two, one was a lot easier.

JM: Plus the saddle block worked when I had him and I was awa^ek during the whole time, feeling no pain.

JS: Did you have to be in labor for a long time with the twins?

No,
JM: I went to the hospital with the twins at 12 o'clock and by 10 after 4 they were both born that afternoon.

JS: You went at 12 o'clock at noon? That's pretty easy than in the middle of the night running around and everything.

JM: I went to the doctor with the flue and I was in labor then.

JS: How convenient.

JM: And [REDACTED] was fast too because I went into the hospital at 12 with him and at 3 o'clock that afternoon he was born.

JS: I told you about [REDACTED] ^e she really had a hard time. They had to induce her then the doctor left *after he* and ~~she~~ started into hard labor.

JM: They induced labor with [REDACTED] too but he was fast.

JS: Yeah, [REDACTED] baby is really big.

JM: Well mine were little too.

JS: How much did they weigh?

JM: [REDACTED] weigh^ed 4 lbs. 10 ozs. [REDACTED] w igh^ed 5 lbs. 8 ozs.

JS: That is little

JM: They were tiny.

JS: *Maybe the little one being born first made the other one bigger.*

JS: What do you do for recreation in your leisure time? Do you have any leisure time?

JM: Not really.

JS: How long have you been working as a janitor?

JM: I started in September.

JS: Is that the first job you've had since you ~~you~~ had the job of raising ~~three~~ *the* *those* *three?* children. Have you done other work on the outside?

JM: Oh I've worked as a waitress for a while but I really didn't care for waitress work but I like this janitor work very well.

JS: There isn't anyone around to bug you, *is there?*

JM: No because all the teachers are usually gone. I go to work at quarter after two and by 3:30 everybody's out of the building ~~at~~ *by* 4 o'clock.

JS: Is it the high school that you do?

JM: No I do the grade school.

JS: *yeah because that* ~~Now is that~~ high school, I've heard people complain about it was that the partitions are just really noisy. I wondered if there was any advantage ~~in keeping it clean.~~ *to like maybe its easier to clean.*

JM: No because they have all the carpeting that they have to clean where we don't entirely.

JS: Do you know of the SUB that just got opened again of the University in Moscow, *they've been cleaning up and it* opened again as the blue bucket, is what it was called before, and there was carpeting all over everything, the benches.

JM: Yeah, that would make it hard to keep clean.

JS: Do you take time out to go out to a movie with a friend? I know you have a date tonight with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to go to the show, are you going to

go with them?

JM: Yeah, the whole family's going, mom's gonna go to.

JM: Well I would take time out to go see a movie if they had any decent ones.

JS: That's true, *they haven't had very many good movies around here,*

JM: I like to go the the Walt Disney movies, that's about the extent of it.

JS: There's a new theatre *in Moscow shows old movies* ~~that should be open~~ "The Micro Theatre" it's right across from Kentucky Fried Chicken.

It used to be a Seventh Day Adventist Church and they decided to show movies every few days and every once in a while they get some really good ones in there. *I'll have to* ~~They~~ give you a list of the shows.

JS: You do a lot of things with your mom don't you?

Yes I do, I enjoy my mother.

JS: So do I. Did you play with [REDACTED] a lot, were you very close when you were younger?

JM: [REDACTED] and I weren't close, like I say now I was the baby of the family But we are now, I'm up there every day, I help her and she helps me and we're a close family really.

JS: I envy you.

JM: As far as I'm concerned my mom and dad and my family ^d to ay are close.

JS: At least you are. Last week I was taping her and I hit this question about expectations for your daughter were and she started saying, "well I didn't expect anything, you can't live somebody else's life for them, I just let them do what they wanted to." She really did that with you?

JM: Yes she did.

JS: That's what I thought, that's pretty neat. No wonder you're still friends.

JM: Well that's what I consider *my* a mother as and *that* I was a friend.

JS: You always had that relationship with her?

JM: When I was in high school she was my friend.

JS: How did she feel about you quitting?

JM: Well she, really I don't think she wanted me to but she never said I couldn't. I mean ^{she} I knew I was getting married anyway. Maybe she was hurt I don't know if she was really hurt about it or not, she never did say.

JS: She probably wasn't, well I don't know your relationship, I just know she's so neat because it probably wasn't anything wrong with her that you didn't want to finish. She's a nice woman.

JM: Yes she is.

JS: Do you garden here? Your're going to have a garden this summer right?

JM: Yeah, we're going to have a great big garden this year.

JS: Did you garden before?

JM: Yes.

JS: *I heard about [redacted] garden but I didn't hear too much about here.*

JM: Well because I never had much.

JS: She was closer too.

JM: We couldn't have a garden last year because it was too wet around here and we couldn't get the ground *dry enough to work it up.*

JS: It doesn't snow *where everything drains in,* or *anything* here. Is Onaway pretty low?

Do you know the story *Onaway (?) from Pottlatch?*

JM: I don't know anything about Onaway really.

JS: Except it's a nice place.

JM: Yeah because now they have water and sewer, they've improved Onaway too.

JS: The reservoir on the hill, it's pretty new?

JM: Oh yes, we just had that put in about 3 or 4 years ago that we got that.

JS: Really. You had a well then?

JM: Yes and we had a septic tank *where* *is* for our sewer, and everything drained down through town and it was bad.

JS: Especially if you're in one of the low spots, it probably drained through here didn't it?

JM: No it went on down and then the government gave us a grant so we could have water and sewer.

JS: I know about government grants, that's why I get to do this.

What are some of the things your family^{NSCW} would have to do without if you weren't here to do it?

JM: If I wasn't here to do it?

JS: Yes.

JM: Oh mine, what my family.

JS: Or should I have said that.

JM: I don't know really what you mean. If something happened to me what....

JS: Like do you do the carpentry or you don't kill the chickens like are there any chores that you yourself do that no one else does. This is a bad question.

JM: Well I really don't know because my kids help me an awful lot and they learn, I want them to learn how to cook and how to do floors so really they help me a lot. They learn, I really couldn't say what I, I don't even sew.

JS: I'm trying to ^{wonder} ~~think~~ whether you can think of anymore here that would make any sense. Do you go to church, what church do you go to?

JM: No I don't ~~usually~~. ^{go to church.}

JS: Neither do I. Would you ever live in a big city, or do you like it here?

JM: No I'd never live in a big city.

JS: What are some of the reasons that you have.

JM: Crime.

JS: Tons of crime and lots of pollution.

JM: People like to go out solely. I don't think in a big city anybody knows each other, they don't trust each other, I've never desired to live in the city. We lived in a resort area once in Newport, Oregon and it was a tourist town.

JS: Yeah and you moved to Oregon and the kids wanted to come back here.

JM: I didn't like it at all there.

JS: How come you were there?

JM: My husband's mother lives there so we went there when he worked as a carpenter for awhile but I didn't like it.

JS: It was alright with you, you wanted to come back to Potlatch?

So did [REDACTED] he felt
We ~~felt~~ after 6 months, that was enough.

JS: What was it like, he was drafted right when you had you first two?

JM: He was in the service when we got married.

JS: Were you lonely for him or was staying with your mom^{was} ok.?

JM: Well I enjoyed staying with mom and he was over in Germany and I didn't have any desire to go to Germany. It was almost impossible^{then} with me having two babies anyway.

JS: I don't know, if you had them over there they'd still be citizens because you were a citizen.

JM: [REDACTED] wasn't too bad but [REDACTED] was but^{then} mom took care of [REDACTED] when she was a baby and I took care of [REDACTED]

JS: Oh so that made it more easier.

JM: [REDACTED] was more possessive of [REDACTED] because your grandmother watched you, ~~you~~ didn't like me giving [REDACTED] all the attention.

JS: How long was it before she calmed down about it?

JM: Oh maybe a month, there was just a couple of weeks when she went back to wetting her pants for my attention and I just ignored the fact that she was doing that and she quit, then she was alright.

JS: Did you have your own home right away or did you have to stay with your parents?

JM: No I had a house rented when he got out of the service so I had it all ready for him to move into. Then we lived across the street from mom for

a year and then we got this place.

I really like it. I really have no desire to move anywhere, I just want to be here.

JS: This is a nice place. So you're glad of the things the way they are.

JM: Yes.

JS: How do you think that your life differs from the city, do you think that women from the city have different views on things?

JM: Yes I think that's where a lot of these women have these liberation ideas, which I don't agree with.

JS: You feel the city's bad because of not much contact.

JM: Yes and the pollution. I just think you have it better in a smaller area, you can raise your food and you can do it the right way. If you didn't have money and you were unemployed, now there's people in the cities that are just lost, they don't know what to do.

JS: Was [REDACTED] born in a big city in Wisconsin? Do you think your ^{rural} life is a lot different than hers was?

JM: No I don't think she was born in the city but they didn't have what we have today.

JS: She had a poorer family? *or just the times changed?*

JM: Well of course they went through the war a few times too.

JS: She was telling me some stories about what her brothers went through that I wouldn't want to have to go through. How old were your brothers? No they would be really young, what was it the second World War.

JM: No because the war was over when I was born.

JS: It was such a big thing which I was never exposed to, I'm glad.

JM: I am too. Today if things like that happened a lot of us wouldn't know what to do because we never had to go through it.

JS: I ^w. Idaho we like to think we're kind of safe because there's not so many big cities. If there ever was an attack in this country they'd

probably go where there's a lot of people.

JS: Anything else you can think of that you'd like to say about your life.

Here in 10 minutes, tell me your life.

JM: No, not really.

(end of interview, tape 3 side 1)